



# EXPLORATIONS

BY COLLETTE

## Meet Your Explorations Experts

Find out who will join you  
on your travels, from your  
LEAD to Local Guides.

pg. 10

## In Pursuit of Flavour

France's precious culinary  
prize, the black truffle, is  
waiting to be found.

pg. 22

## Meet the Royalty of Ranthambore

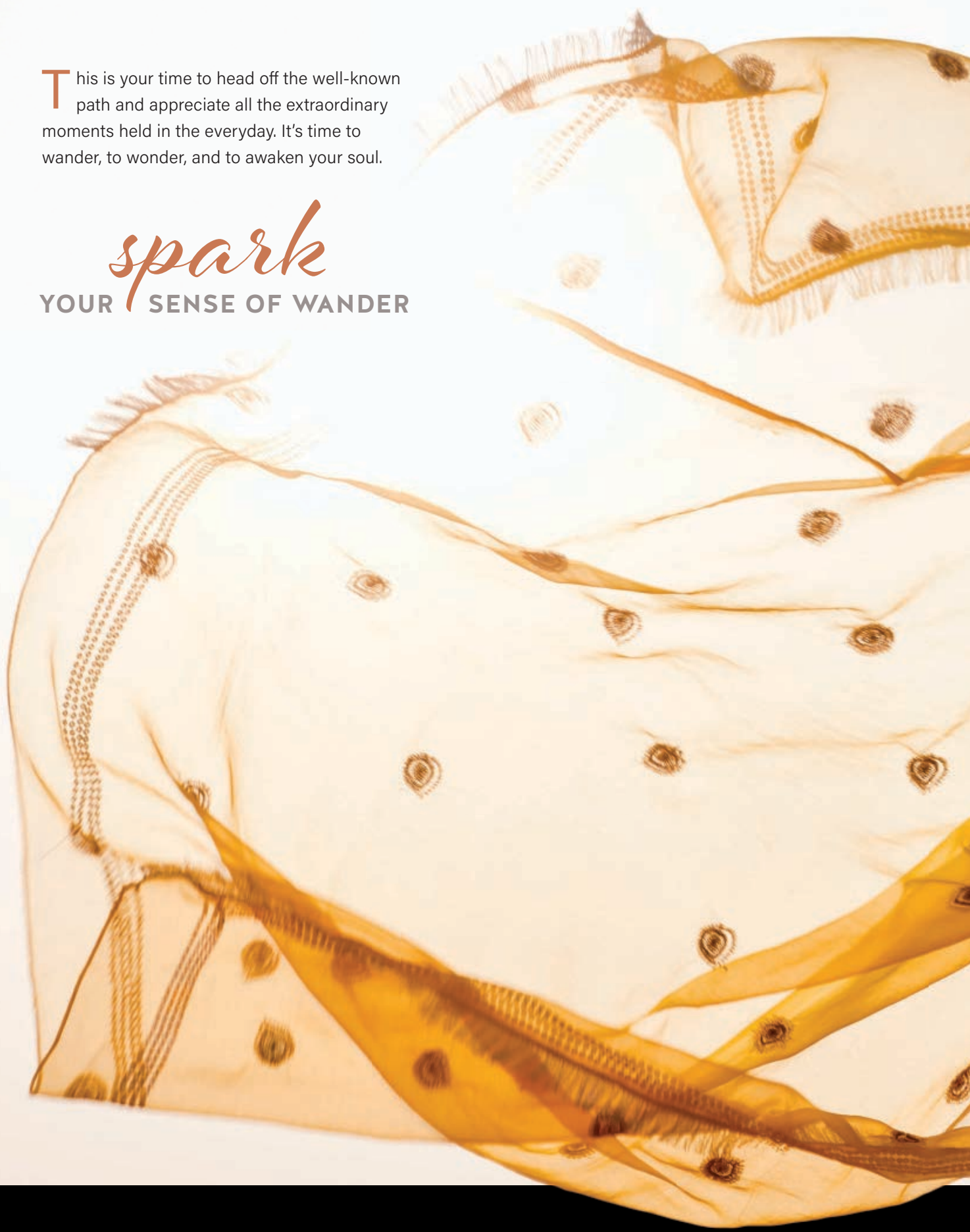
In India's most famous  
National Park, Bengali  
tigers rule the forest.

pg. 57



**T**his is your time to head off the well-known path and appreciate all the extraordinary moments held in the everyday. It's time to wander, to wonder, and to awaken your soul.

*spark*  
YOUR SENSE OF WANDER









# discover WHAT'S INSIDE

When it comes to creating an immersive travel experience for Explorations, we have truly explored the world. We've spent the night in the Moroccan desert, sleeping in Berber tents among the dunes. We've braved the snows of Finland to find the northern lights. We've spoken to the locals and found the places they know and love.

And, that's just what you'll do, too. On Explorations, you'll have the opportunity to travel beyond the surface and immerse yourself in the cultures, foods, and experiences of local life.

We invite you to journey off the well-travelled path and explore.



*Jaclyn F. Cote*

Jaclyn Leibl-Cote  
President

## Europe

pgs 18-39

### Set Off in Pursuit of Flavour in Southern France pg. 22

Track down black truffles, the "black diamonds" of France, with an expert chef and his trained truffle dogs at your side.

### Live like a local in the Aran Islands of Ireland pg. 26

Settle in for an overnight stay on the island of Inisheer, the smallest of the Aran Islands, off the western coast of Ireland.

### Castello di Tabiano's Millennia of History pg. 30

Learn the tale of historic intrigue, battle, politics, and rivalries that made this castle famous across Italy.



## Africa

pgs 40-49

### The Silence and the Stars of the Sahara Desert pg. 40

Experience the night sky like you never have before – surrounded by rolling dunes, and wrapped in the stillness of the desert.

### Connect with Masai Culture in Kenya pg. 44

Spend an afternoon getting to know the Masai people, and be a welcomed visitor in a local village to see a slice of everyday life.







## The Americas

pgs 50-56

### Be one with nature in Costa Rica **pg. 50**

From a jungle oasis in Tortuguero, to the remote wonders of Manuel Antonio National Park, nature is truly all around you.

### See a Neighbourhood Transformed by Art **pg. 52**

Meet with a resident of Comuna 13, a barrio reborn through creativity, and walk the streets on a tour of the murals and graffiti art.



## Asia

pgs 57-67

### Seek Out the Big Cats of Ranthambore **pg. 57**

Meet some of the Royal Bengali tigers that prowl the lush jungles of India's legendary nature reserve.

### Top 5 Vietnamese Street Foods to Try **pg. 62**

From banh mi to Vietnamese coffee, this is your guide for sampling the delicious foods found on the streets of Vietnam.

### Mingle with the monks of a local monastery in Laos **pg. 66**

Hop aboard a Tuk Tuk and head to a local monastery where you'll meet the monks who reside there.



# THE EXPLORATIONS TRAVELLER



You are an individual and **value your independence.**



You **discover new destinations** best by getting to know the people who call it home.



You're pretty **active.** You enjoy walking, hiking and the occasional bike ride.



You like the thrill of planning travel, but aren't a fan of logistics. You want to focus on making the trip **memorable**, not getting wrapped up in the details.



You have an **adventurous spirit.** You find that your best stories are from when you said "yes" to something new.



**Social butterfly? Perfect. Engaged observer? No problem.** No matter which way you lean, Explorations experiences will fit you.

**You'll share the road, a few meals, and a variety of special moments with a small, tight-knit group averaging about 15 people.** You won't be one of the crowd with Explorations, you'll be an integral part of a cultural expedition. Every Explorations traveller is unique, but you all share a similar agenda—**to travel and connect to the world in a more authentic way.**

## ACTIVITY LEVELS

As part of the Collette family, we share **5 activity levels** across more than 160 tours. On Explorations, you'll find our tours scale a bit more active to allow for the most immersive experience possible. Here's a little about what activity levels 3-5 mean for you and your travel experience:

**3**

### MODERATE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY:

You enjoy a blend of longer days, shorter days, and leisure time. Plan for some walking tours, walking slightly longer distances, up stairs, or on uneven walking surfaces.

**4**

### ACTIVE:

You're comfortable with a mix of longer days and some evening or early-morning activities. You can expect longer walking tours, traversing uneven terrain, climbing stairs, and periods of standing.

**5**

### VERY ACTIVE:

You're in good health and able to handle activities like: extensive walking tours, transfers over uneven or dusty terrain, high altitudes, early-morning departures, late-night activities, or extreme temperatures. This tour is not appropriate for individuals who use walkers or wheelchairs.









# WHAT YOU'LL DO

*unique* experiences

**It's often said that experience is the best teacher and we couldn't agree more.** Experiences help educate us as travellers about cultures, traditions, and the human spirit. It's why we take the time to include truly exceptional experiences on Explorations. Some experiences are active and even a little adventurous, some are designed to reveal the heart of a culture, and some may even have the power to change your life.

**Hard to replicate, and impossible to forget, these experiences will help shape your understanding of a destination, and shape your vision of the world.**



## **It was** *brilliant.*

A very well-organized tour. Hotels were five-star. Our tour manager was the best. The bus stopped at a small village and we walked through a market with our guide who suggested local produce for us to try. We were able to chat with the local people who were very friendly."

**EXPLORATIONS TRAVELLER ON  
MYSTERIES OF INDIA**



## TUSCANY ON TWO WHEELS



Golden rolling hills, the warm sun on your shoulders, and quaint hill towns that seemingly spring up out of nowhere. This is the Tuscany you've always imagined. It's even more memorable as you zip through winding roads on a Vespa tour. On **Italy's Bella Vita**, you'll join a local expert who will guide you through the Tuscan countryside and acquaint you with the history, culture, and beauty of this region.

» *Italy's Bella Vita*, pg. 34-35





## A MORE INTIMATE SIDE OF IRELAND

Many travellers get to experience the breathtaking beauty of Inisheer (the smallest of the Aran Islands), but few see what the island is like as the last ferry departs for mainland Ireland. On **Countryside of the Emerald Isle**, you'll settle in for an overnight stay amid the island's desolate yet magnificent beauty. With a population of just over 260, you'll practically have the island to yourself to explore the labyrinth of stone walls, local arts centre, Inisheer lighthouse, and the Plassy shipwreck. It's an education in local culture unlike any other.

» *Countryside of the Emerald Isle, pg. 26-27*

## UNCOVERING THE ROMANCE OF Udaipur

Far from the powerful din of Delhi, you'll find a perfect slice of tranquility on a cruise of Lake Pichola. As the sun dips in the early evening and glitters along the softly rippled water, the regal allure of Udaipur unfolds before you. When nightfall comes, and the royal surroundings are illuminated one by one, you can almost feel the magic in the air. See it all from the grounds of your lakeside hotel—a historic palace.

» *Mysteries of India, pg. 58-59*



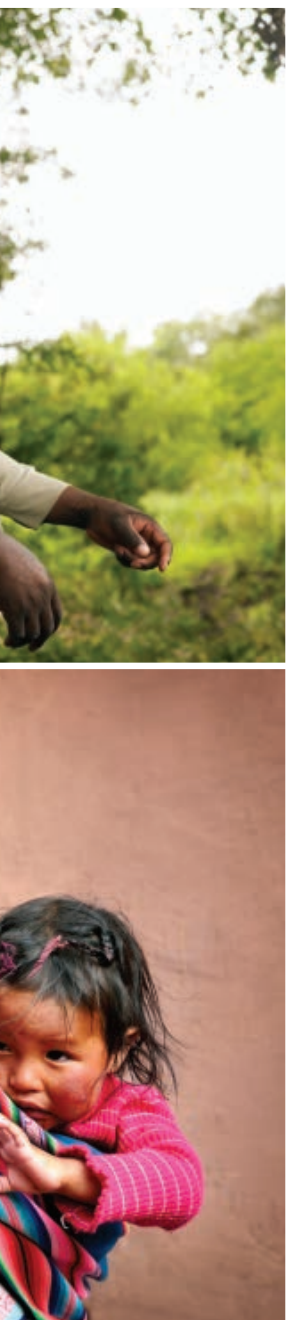




# WHO WILL JOIN YOU

**Your travels are often made more memorable by the people you meet and the connections you make along the way.** Explorations does more than show you a new place. It connects you to new cultures and shows you a fresh perspective of the world. This approach to travel wouldn't be possible without a little help from the people who will share the adventure with you.





## Explorations LEAD

**Liaison to Experiences, Adventure & Discovery;** Part friend, part historian, and a total virtuoso with logistics, it takes a special type of person to be an Explorations LEAD. From recommendations for free time to introducing you to new foods, people, and experiences, our LEADs are your go-to expert for everything while you're travelling. They make every part of your trip seamless.



## Local Guides

**Our local experts know more than just the lay of the land. They reveal the spirit of their hometown.** Maybe they'll point out their childhood home on a walking tour. Maybe they'll tell you a story you won't find in a travel guide. You won't find a more authentic way to see the local sights than with our local experts.



## Fellow Travellers

**You'll travel with a small group of 19 or less people who are a lot like you.** And while every traveller is unique, Explorations travellers have many similar interests and a shared desire to travel in a deeper, more meaningful way.



## Local Community

**You won't just see locals going about their everyday lives, you'll experience life right alongside them.** Cook a meal together. Share a few stories. Learn about traditions. You'll truly come to understand a destination by connecting with the people who call it home.



## YOUR TIME IS VALUABLE WHILE YOU'RE TRAVELLING.

Make the most out of it by getting local recommendations from your **Explorations LEAD**. Our **LEADs** know just where to go (and not to go) so you can spend more time making memories and less time planning for them.



### Nature tour of Costa Rica was *wonderful!*

A tour director who knows where to find wildlife!  
We would never have seen these things on our own."

**EXPLORATIONS TRAVELLER ON  
COSTA RICA: A WORLD OF NATURE**





## WHAT'S ON THE MENU

### *culinary* adventures

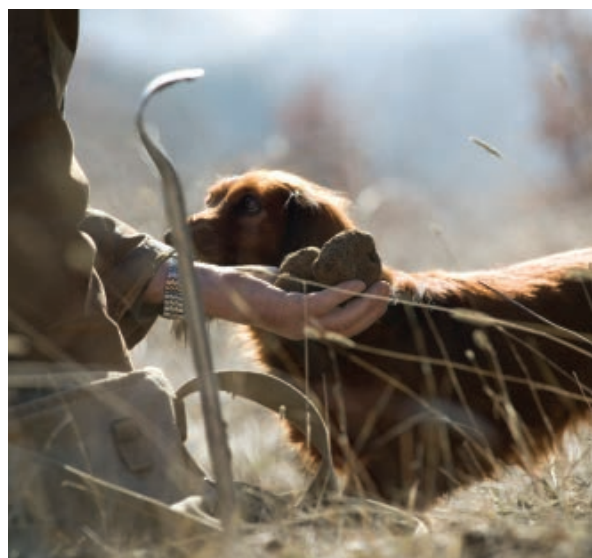
Local cuisine is so much more than taste and texture. It's about the experience and ambiance served up alongside a mouthwatering meal. Explorations seeks to delight the entire palate, creating an unforgettable and hard-to-replicate epicurean adventure. From home-hosted meals to hands-on cooking classes, intimate local restaurants to street food tours, you will savour the many local flavours your destination has to offer.



### We *loved* the smaller group focus on small hillside towns!

Highlights include the visit to the olive oil farm, Carletti, where the intimate setting was marvellous as was the olive oil. The cooking class in Vallo di Nera was a lot of fun and laughs."

**EXPLORATIONS TRAVELLER ON  
TUSCAN & UMBRIAN COUNTRYSIDE**



## HUNTING FOR TRUFFLES IN FRANCE

Delight in the "thrill of the hunt" on an epicurean adventure through the forests of Southern France. Led by a local chef and his keen-sensed dogs, this culinary experience on **Journey Through Southern France** will have you searching for coveted black truffles where they naturally grow.

» *Journey Through Southern France, pg. 24-25*



## A SENSORY FEAST IN THE SAHARA

Venture into the Sahara on **Colours of Morocco** and let the intoxicating sound of Berber drums and the fresh, minty aroma of Moroccan tea delight your senses. Feast on traditional Moroccan dishes as you indulge every sense in the quiet serenity of the desert.

» *Colours of Morocco pg. 42-43*





# WHERE YOU'LL STAY

*authentic* surroundings

**Explorations includes a variety of unique places to rest up and rejuvenate during your travels.** Each hotel (4-star and above) is carefully chosen to ensure that your exploration never stops, even while you're relaxing after a full day, or lingering over a morning coffee. Whether it's the history, the view, the location, or the amenities, your hotels will capture the spirit of your destination.



*These are but a few of the types of places you can expect to stay with Explorations. Visit [explorations.com](https://www.explorations.com) to see specific hotel details for your trip.*



## ECO LODGE

At an eco lodge, the environment is key. Both in your surroundings and preserving it for the generations to come. One of our favourite spots for staying in an eco lodge is in Costa Rica, where your surroundings are truly alive and conservation is always top of mind.



Italy's Treasures had us staying in the best places outside of large cities (except for Venice, of course) in picturesque villas seen only in movies. The whole experience was exceptional. Our guide was outstanding."

**EXPLORATIONS TRAVELLER ON  
ITALY'S TREASURES**



## CASTLES & CHATEAUS

You'll truly live like a royal on some of our European Explorations. Walk the halls and grounds where royals once reigned and take time to appreciate the history that surrounds you.



## MOROCCAN RIAD

A riad—a large traditional home or palace built around a central courtyard—is perfect for soaking in the cultural ambiance of Morocco. Steeped in history and heritage, staying in a riad is a must to connect with Morocco's storied past.

# FEEL THE FREEDOM TO *explore*

**No one has travelled the same path as you. And no one will experience the world just as you do.** While there's no "one size fits all" travel experience, the travel experiences we craft include a good balance of unique, hard-to-replicate experiences, cultural connections, and plenty of opportunities for "you" time.

Sometimes with a guide by your side, and others with no other agenda other than to explore, these included and optional experiences mean you'll come to understand a destination on your own terms.

## *included on* **EXPLORATIONS**

### It's Your Choice

Zip lining or hiking, walking or biking, leisure time or guided sightseeing—it's all up to you. We build these choices into Explorations to allow you to tailor your experience. All you have to do is choose which included option best suits your interests.

### Plenty of You Time

To truly feel the pulse of a new destination, you need time to set off on your own. We incorporate the right mix of guided experiences and time to independently explore on every tour we craft.



ANGKOR WAT, CAMBODIA



ZIP LINE IN COSTA RICA



LAVENDER FIELDS IN FRANCE



"BIG 5" GAME DRIVES  
IN KENYA

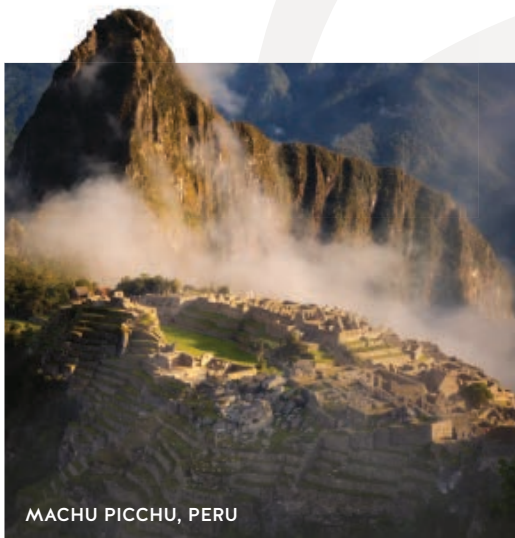


TAJ MAHAL, INDIA



HALONG BAY, VIETNAM





MACHU PICCHU, PERU



ROME, ITALY



DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

## *optional* **ADDITIONS**

### **Excursions**

Bringing you one step deeper into the culture, our **optional excursions** will provide you with new experiences and perspectives. From culture walks to exotic cruises and cultural connections, there's a little something for every type of traveller.

### **Add a Day (or two, or more!)**

Ideal for independent explorers who want to spend even more time in the city where their tour begins or ends.

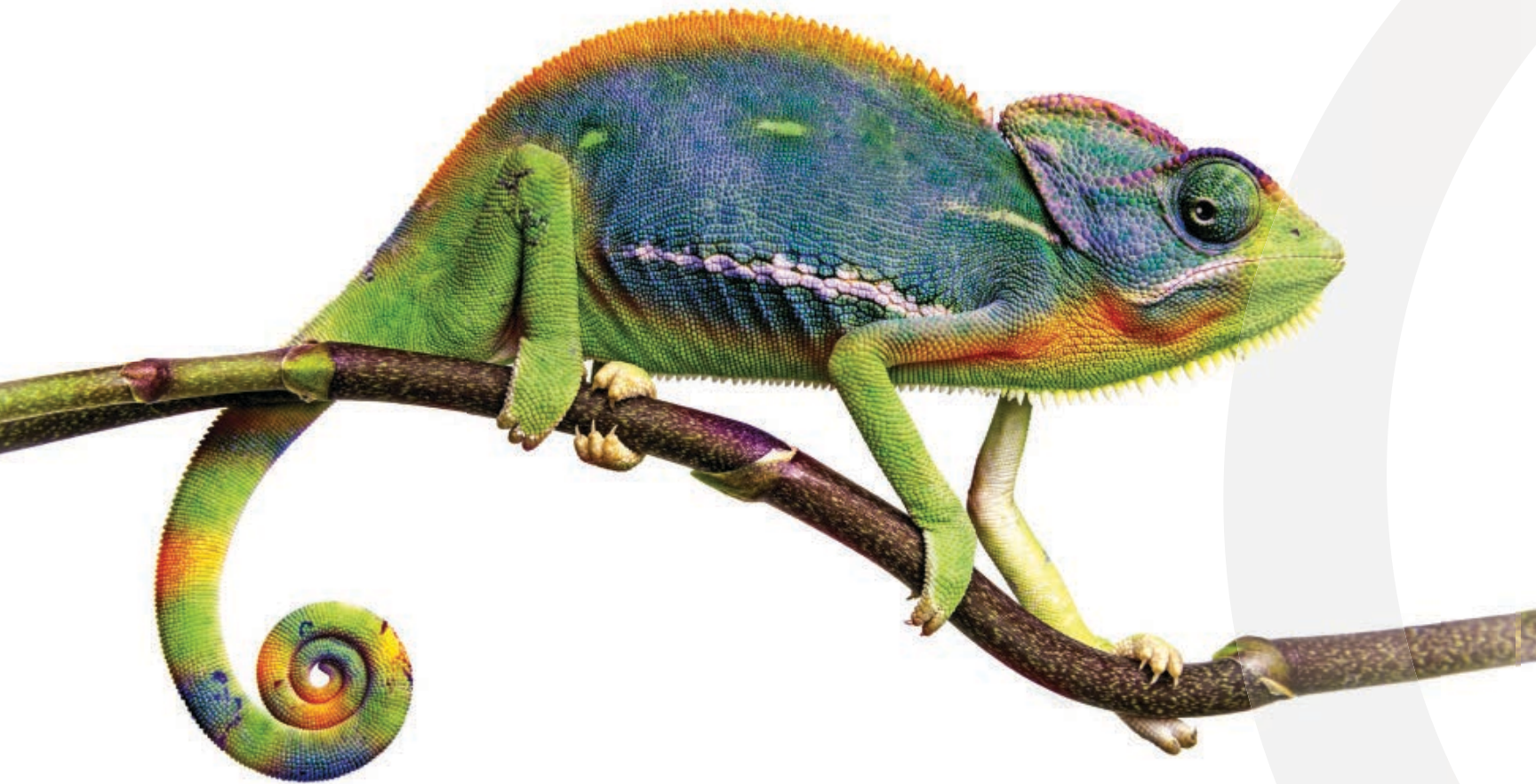
**Start early, stay longer**, and let the adventure unfold.

### **Extensions**

Ready to experience more of the world? Extend your Explorations experience by adding an extension. These **pre-** and **post-tour** adventures include experiences, meals, hotels, transportation, and more.

### **Back-to-Back**

Want a grand adventure? **Combine two tours into one** unforgettable trip. Many of our Explorations and Collette tours match up perfectly to create the ultimate travel experience.



## REWARD YOUR LOYALTY

Get yourself one step closer to your next destination with the Collette Passport Club. **Automatically earn a \$150 credit every time you travel** along with various other benefits. Credits can be used for any future Explorations or Collette tours.

The world is yours!  
*See page 71 for more details.*

## WANDER THE WORLD WORRY-FREE

With an **industry-leading travel protection plan** (cancel for any reason right up to the day prior to departure) and 24/7 support, we are here to take the worry out of booking your trip. No one likes when things go wrong, but when they do, you want someone in your corner to handle things the right way.

*See page 75.*

## MAKE AN IMPACT

We are committed to making our world a better place to live, work, and travel. We **help sustain and preserve communities, cultures, and traditions** on our travels and offer plenty of ways to make a positive impact while travelling with us.



# THE DETAILS? WE HAVE THEM *covered*

**Explorations is a proud member of the Collette family.** That means we are backed by Collette's 100 years of expertise and travel insight. It also means that while you're travelling with us, every detail is covered.

## PUT YOUR TRIP IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND

Don't tap into your expensive international data plan. Use the **Collette Compass** app and **your trip info is just a tap away.** Your itinerary, maps, travel tips, and more are stored in this easy-to-use tool that doesn't need data to operate.

## GET THERE AND BACK WITH EASE

Forget about the hassle of coordinating logistics. **Add airfare to your booking and let us work with the airlines.** Not only will we plan all the details of your travel and handle any challenges, we'll **also include private transportation from your home to the airport.\*** Choose from three great options for what best fits your travel preference and budget.

\*Restrictions apply. See full details on pages 70 & 72.

## GO AHEAD, SAVE THE DATE

Many of our Explorations **departures are guaranteed,** so once you book, it's time to start getting excited for what's to come.



© Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort, Lapland, Finland

Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort

# THE NORTHERN LIGHTS OF FINLAND

## 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*



## THE NORTHERN LIGHTS OF FINLAND

This is so much more than a hunt for stunning streaks of colour in the night sky (though it's a pretty amazing part). This is a step into Finland's dynamic and intriguing culture—from Helsinki's cool-casual vibe to the pristine winter wilderness of Lapland.

**STARTING AT \$5049\*** DAYS 8 MEALS 11

\*Price based on October 5, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.  
Interflights not included in the land price and must be purchased through us.

### Where You'll Stay

#### Helsinki 2 Nights

Lilla Roberts Hotel

#### Kakslauttanen, Lapland 3 Nights

Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort - West Village, Lapland

#### Helsinki 1 Night

Lilla Roberts Hotel

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

6 Breakfasts

5 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

#### Active

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.*



## 1 SET YOUR SIGHTS ON THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

Sometimes a mere whisper of colour, others a symphony of neon hues, the northern lights are spellbinding. While in Lapland, keep a close eye to the night sky. On clear, starry nights, there's a high likelihood that magic will unfold right before your eyes. Experiencing this phenomenon—especially from the comfort of your glass igloo—will truly redefine the word "awesome."

**>> SEEK THIS EXPERIENCE THROUGHOUT YOUR TIME IN FINLAND.**



## 2 BE THE LEADER OF THE PACK

Arguably one of the best ways to take in the postcard-perfect vistas of Finland's north country is by dogsled. Learn the commands, get acquainted with the dogs and hop on a sled for one unforgettable ride. This charming, high-energy breed is in their element as they dash through the snow, practically smiling as they guide you through the unspoiled wilderness.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 6 IN KAKSLAUTTANEN.



© Visit Finland / K. Chae



## 3 RETHINK YOUR DEFINITION OF SAFARI

While at the Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort, you'll head out into the wilderness on an evening reindeer safari. Search for the northern lights, warm yourself with a steaming cup of berry juice, and get to know local reindeer herders. This engaging experience, led by the indigenous Sami people, is the ultimate exploration of Lapland's culture and striking natural beauty.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 5 IN KAKSLAUTTANEN.

### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-3 HELSINKI

##### Uncover Helsinki's Charm

- Join a local expert and get to know Finland's vibrant capital city. Once you have the lay of the land, Helsinki is yours for the discovering.



#### DAYS 4-6 KAKSLAUTTANEN

##### Wander in a Winter Wonderland

- In addition to included activities like dogsledding, guided aurora hunting, and a reindeer safari, Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort boasts miles of cross-country skiing trails, restorative smoke saunas and ice pools, horseback riding, and more—ideal for exploring during your free time.
- Enjoy one night in a glass igloo (and two in a traditional Finnish log cabin).
- Introduce yourself to Lappish reindeer and meet Santa Claus himself.

#### DAYS 7-8 HELSINKI

##### Seek Out More in Helsinki

- Explore the city's historic squares and trend-wise boutiques and neighbourhoods.
- Gather around the table one last time to share stories and relive your Finnish experiences.

Visit [explorations.com/605](https://explorations.com/605) for complete tour details.



Snæfellsjökull

## ICELANDIC ADVENTURE

**This is Iceland.** A land forged by fire and ice and full of dramatic contrasts—from ethereal lava fields and thundering waterfalls to charming coastal villages.

**STARTING AT \$5999\* DAYS 10 MEALS 13**

\*Price based on September 24, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.

Rates do not include inter-tour air.

### Where You'll Stay

#### Reykjavík 2 Nights

Centerhotel Arnarhvoll,  
Centerhotel Plaza, or  
Alda Hotel

#### Húsavík 3 Nights

Raudaskrida Hotel & Guesthouse

#### Stykkishólmur 2 Nights

Fosshotel Stykkishólmur

#### Reykjavík 1 Night

Centerhotel Arnarhvoll,  
Centerhotel Plaza, or  
Alda Hotel

On some dates alternate  
hotels may be used.

### Included Meals

**8** Breakfasts

**5** Dinners

### Activity Level

**1 2 3 4 5**

#### Active

See pg. 6 for details  
on our activity levels.



## ICELANDIC ADVENTURE

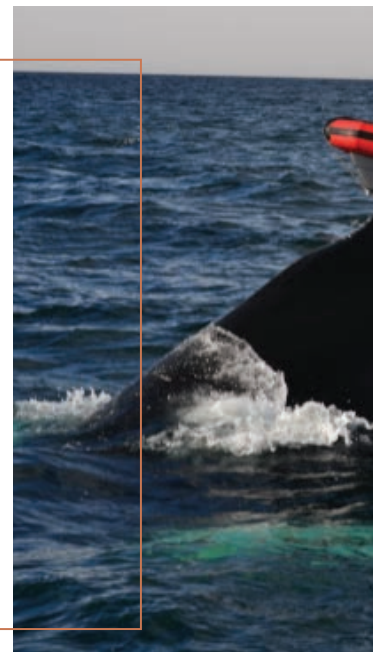
**3** EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*



## 3 REDEFINE YOUR IDEA OF WHALE WATCHING

Sport some thermal wear (included) and join expert whale watchers on Skálafandi Bay. Get as close as you can to whales in northern Iceland aboard specialized zodiacs that give you the most intimate view possible of humpback, minke, orca, fin, and even the giant blue whales that frequent these waters.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 5 IN HÚSAVÍK.**





## 1 ADVENTURE HEATS UP ON ICE

After you've enjoyed a hearty spread of local specialties on the Snæfellsjökull Glacier, your next activity is yours for the choosing. Join an expert guide on a glacial climb that brings you to nearly 3,000 feet **-OR-** venture alongside a guide for a mountain hike through the otherworldly lava fields.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 8  
IN THE SNÆFELLSNES PENINSULA.**



## 2 SOAK IN THE LOCAL CULTURE

You can't leave Iceland without taking a dip in the warm, mineral-rich waters of the Blue Lagoon (and you will!), but, you also came to Iceland for an immersive local experience. We'll head to where the locals go for a revitalizing soak in mineral-rich geothermal waters—the Blue Lagoon of the North, Mývatn Nature Baths.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 6  
IN LAKE MÝVATN.**



Credit: Gregory Hall

### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-3 REYKJAVÍK

##### Discover Iceland's Cool Vibe

- Explore Reykjavík on a walking tour of the city's old quarter.
- Experience a "day in the life" at a family-owned dairy farm.
- Travel the Golden Circle and visit otherworldly Thingviller National Park, stunning Gullfoss Falls and the Strokkur Geyser.
- Learn about and discover Iceland's farm-to-table culture with a visit to Friðheimar Greenhouse Cultivation Centre.

#### DAYS 4-6 HÚSAVÍK

##### Appreciate Natural Wonders in Húsavík

- Stay on a family-owned, Environmental Gold-certified property, where you'll savour locally sourced farm-to-table meals.
- Travel to Húsavík to discover the town's connection to whaling before jumping in a RIB boat to seek them out yourself.
- Soak in mineral-rich geothermal waters and witness the power of nature as we take a day exploring the Diamond Circle.

#### DAYS 7-8 STYKKISHÓLMUR

##### Dive Deep into Iceland's Landscapes

- Journey 100 feet below the ground to an 8,000-year-old lava tube on a thrilling tour of Vatnshellir Cave.
- Capture the beauty of the Snæfellsnes Peninsula during guided exploration.
- Ascend the captivating Snæfellsjökull glacier via mountain truck and enjoy a tasting of Icelandic delicacies.
- Wander around the quaint fishing village of Stykkishólmur.

**Y IT'S YOUR CHOICE!** Join an expert guide on a glacial climb that brings you to nearly 3,000 feet **OR** venture alongside a guide for a mountain hike through the otherworldly lava fields.

#### DAYS 9-10 REYKJAVÍK

##### Celebrate Icelandic Heritage

- Meet with a local family that keeps alive a 400-year-old tradition of catching and preserving Greenland shark.
- Try a local specialty, hákarl (cured shark meat).
- Dive into the origins of Icelandic heritage during a visit to the Settlement Museum.
- Take a soak in the Blue Lagoon.

Visit [explorations.com/604](https://explorations.com/604) for complete tour details.

A close-up photograph of a man's face in the background, slightly out of focus. He is wearing a cap and a dark jacket. In the foreground, his hand is holding a large, dark, irregularly shaped black truffle. The truffle has a rough, textured surface with some lighter patches. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a clear sky.

# IN PURSUIT OF FLAVOUR

HUNTING BLACK TRUFFLES IN GORDES, FRANCE



## IN THE GENTLY ROLLING HILLS OF SOUTHEASTERN FRANCE, A UNIQUE HUNT IS TAKING PLACE.

The hunters are, in fact, world-class chefs. Their companions are dogs, using their keen sense of smell to track. And their prey is a unique French delicacy – black truffles.

Hidden in the soil among the roots of trees, these mushroom-like culinary curiosities are prized for their shockingly sweet flavour, and used to make truffle salt, truffle honey, and to enhance many French dishes. They're often called the "black diamonds" of France, for their rarity and high cost.

To find these delicacies, you'll join a chef on the hunt through the hills and forests of Southern France. Once you've found them, there's nothing left to do but incorporate them into a delicious dish and savour your success.



**You must watch, smell, and listen. If all your senses are open—nature will give back to you."**

CHEF JEAN-MARC LARRUE



### HOW TO FIND THE *black truffle*



**Rise Early** • There are no truffles for the late sleepers. The hunt starts in the early morning, when the air is still cool and the forest trees are still covered in dew.



**Join the Hunt** • A chef and expert in all things black truffle will lead your woodland excursion to find these rare treats. They know where to look, and more importantly, what to do with the truffles once you find them.



**Follow the Scent** • Your greatest ally in the hunt will be your faithful truffle-sniffing dogs. Trained from puppies to find the truffles hidden under the earth, they'll lead you in the right direction.

Experience the hunt on  
**JOURNEY THROUGH SOUTHERN FRANCE** pg. 24

Visit [explorations.com/568](https://explorations.com/568) for complete tour details.



Saint-Émilion

## JOURNEY THROUGH SOUTHERN FRANCE

Ignite the senses on a rich and engaging step back into time. Journey through some of the world's most decadent wine regions, explore medieval villages seemingly untouched by time, and discover the flavour, colour, and culture of Southern France.

**STARTING AT \$5049\* DAYS 10 MEALS 12**

*\*Price based on July 22, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.*

### Where You'll Stay

#### Bordeaux 2 Nights

Intercontinental Le Grand Hotel

#### Dordogne Valley 2 Nights

Château des Vigiers

#### Carcassonne 1 Night

Mercure La Cite

#### Saint-Rémy-de-Provence 3 Nights

Hotel Le Vallon De Valrugues

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

8 Breakfasts

1 Lunch

3 Dinners

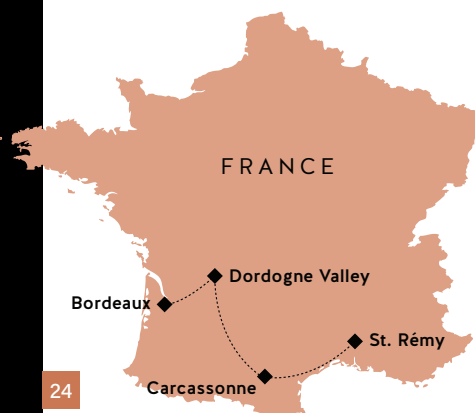
### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

**Active**

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels..*

EUROPE



# JOURNEY THROUGH SOUTHERN FRANCE

## 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*



### 3 FEEL LIKE A ROYAL IN DORDOGNE VALLEY

Tucked away amid vineyards, sleepy medieval towns, and groves of chestnut trees lies a legendary estate fit for royalty. Dubbed "Petit Versailles," Château Des Vigiers is a sprawling 16th-century estate that seamlessly pays homage to the past with luxurious contemporary comforts. You'll spend two nights here amongst the stunning beauty and historic ambiance of this incredible property.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAYS 4 & 5 IN DORDOGNE VALLEY.**







## 1 DISCOVER THE CHARM OF SAINT-ÉMILION

Journey back in the past as a tuk-tuk brings you through the medieval village of Saint-Émilion. Surrounded by towering feats of architecture and miles of world-renowned wineries, you'll get a true taste of local life. Take time to walk the cobblestone streets, peek into centuries-old churches, and taste the wine that shares the town's name.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 4 IN SAINT-ÉMILION.**

## 2 DELIGHT IN THE "THRILL OF THE HUNT" IN GORDES

Led by a local chef and his keen-sensed dogs, this culinary adventure takes you through the countryside of Southern France on an exciting hunt for black truffles where they naturally grow. Après hunt, savour local farm offerings from throughout the countryside.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 8 IN GORDES.**



### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-3 BORDEAUX

##### Drink in the Beauty of Bordeaux

- Enjoy a locally sourced meal paired with the region's famed wines.
- Explore the city with a local guide.
- Embark on a full-bodied exploration of wine culture at La Cité du Vin.
- Walk the grounds of a local winery in Medoc and absorb the atmosphere of the vineyards, smell the grapes, and taste locally grown wine.

#### DAYS 4-5 DORDOGNE VALLEY

##### Be Romanced by Regal Dordogne Valley

- **IT'S YOUR CHOICE:** Take a tuk-tuk through Saint-Émilion, one of Bordeaux's largest winemaking areas **OR** take a guided walking tour of the Old Town.
- See a slice of everyday life with a stop at a lively local market, followed by a visit to Chateau Monbazillac, a wine cooperative known for its signature dessert wine.
- Spend an afternoon relaxing and enjoy your chateau's luxurious spa or explore the grounds at your leisure.
- Spend two nights at a sprawling 16th-century estate nicknamed "Petit Versailles."

#### DAY 6 CARCASSONNE

##### Step into a Storybook in Carcassonne

- Enjoy an independent exploration of the medieval city of Carcassonne, a UNESCO World Heritage site replete with drawbridges, towers, and cobblestone streets.

#### DAYS 7 - 10 SAINT-RÉMY-DE-PROVENCE

##### Peek into Provençal Life

- Gain an inside look at the village of Avignon during a walking tour with a local expert guide, ending with a visit to the dramatic Palace of the Popes.
- Join a local chef and his keen-sensed dogs as you hunt for truffles in the forests of Gordes.
- Learn more about Southern France's famed lavender at Musée de la Lavande.
- Enjoy free time to explore the Provençal charm of Saint-Rémy-de-Provence.

**Visit [explorations.com/568](https://explorations.com/568) for complete tour details.**





Dingle Peninsula

## COUNTRYSIDE OF THE EMERALD ISLE

From ancient castles and historic Dublin to less-travelled roads and charming villages, this adventure brings together the best of the Emerald Isle.

**STARTING AT \$3649\*** DAYS 10 MEALS 12

\*Price based on March 29, 2020 departure. Per person, double, land only.

### Where You'll Stay

#### Dublin 2 Nights

Hampton Hotel

#### Kinsale 2 Nights

Actons Hotel

#### Killarney 2 Nights

Killarney Plaza Hotel

#### Inisheer, Aran Islands 1 Night

Tigh Ruairi

#### Ennis 1 Night

Old Ground Hotel

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

8 Breakfasts

4 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

**Moderate Physical Activity**

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.*



## COUNTRYSIDE OF THE EMERALD ISLE

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*



## 2 LEARN TO COOK WITH A LITTLE IRISH FLAIR

Enjoy putting a modern spin on Irish cuisine during an interactive cooking class at one of Dublin's premier culinary institutions. You'll see how to put a distinctively Irish twist on favourites by transforming classic recipes into modern delights using locally sourced ingredients.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 3 IN DUBLIN.**



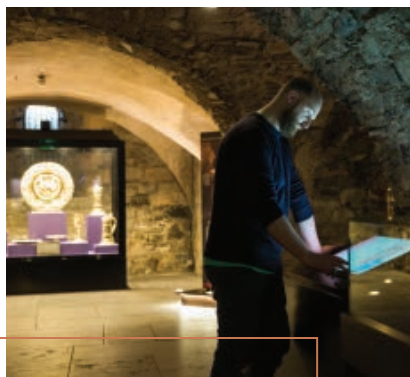




## 1 LIVE LIKE A LOCAL IN THE ARAN ISLANDS

Journey to Inisheer, the smallest of the Aran Islands, on a local ferry and take in views of the Cliffs of Moher from a new angle—beneath them. Enjoy a private tour through the stone walls blanketing the island and learn about its 250 inhabitants. As the last ferry leaves, settle in to your island abode and experience an Ireland few will ever know.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAYS 8-9 IN INISHEER.



## 3 THE OLDEST STRUCTURE IN DUBLIN IS YOURS FOR EXPLORING

As the sun sets behind the towering Christ Church Cathedral and the last visitors leave, this ancient jewel of Dublin is yours to share with your fellow explorers. Walk the hallowed halls, see famous relics, and learn of the rich history of Christ Church before heading down to the crypts for a cocktail reception like no other.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 2 IN DUBLIN.



### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-3 DUBLIN

##### Discover Dublin

- Tour the city with a local expert.
- Tour Christ Church Cathedral before enjoying a private cocktail reception in the crypts.
- Put a modern spin on Irish cuisine during an interactive cooking class at one of Dublin's premier culinary institutions.
- Get lost inside St. Stephen's Green, and marvel at the largest enclosed city park in all of Europe, Phoenix Park.

#### DAYS 4-5 KINSALE

##### Get a Taste of Kinsale's Culture

- Tour the Irish National Stud, home to regal thoroughbreds and opulent gardens, and the Old Midleton Distillery, home of Jameson Irish Whiskey.
- Explore the seaside village of Kinsale on a walking tour with a local expert.
- Select the perfect spot from a "menu" of restaurants in Ireland's gourmet capital of Kinsale. Your dinner is included, but the choice is yours!

**Y IT'S YOUR CHOICE:** Visit the seaside town of Cobh, the last stop of the historic RMS Titanic **OR** spend a leisurely day in Kinsale.

#### DAYS 6-7 KILLARNEY

##### Uncover the Quaint Beauty Surrounding Killarney

- Fall in love with the quaint towns and charming villages along Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way.
- Board a ferry and sail to stunning Garnish Island, home to one of Ireland's most beautiful gardens.
- Explore the enchanting hills and weather-worn bluffs of Dingle. Walk the country lanes on foot, or spend time in Dingle Town, where the Guinness is always freshly tapped.

#### DAYS 8-10 INISHEER • ENNIS

##### Have an Island (Almost) to Yourself

- Board a ferry bound for Inisheer, where you'll explore the landscapes and culture of this unique island inhabited by just over 250 people.
- Enjoy a morning to sleep in or wake early for a sunrise hike to O'Brien Castle.
- Dive into local culture during a knitting workshop and experience the traditional craft of making the St. Brigid's Cross.
- Sail back to the mainland where you'll toast to adventure and close out your Irish experience in Ennis.

Visit [explorations.com/468](https://explorations.com/468) for complete tour details.





# SWITZERLAND: HIDDEN TRAILS AND MAJESTIC PEAKS

## 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*

## SWITZERLAND: HIDDEN TRAILS AND MAJESTIC PEAKS

Set your sights on an active, immersive journey across Switzerland from the soaring Alps to the picturesque Swiss Riviera—all while travelling by train.

STARTING AT \$4999\* DAYS 10 MEALS 12

*\*Price based on May 31, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.*

### Where You'll Stay

#### Neuchatel 3 Nights

Best Western Premier Beaulac

#### Zermatt 2 Nights

Unique Hotel Post or  
Hotel Alex

#### Vevey 3 Nights

Astra Hotel

*On some dates alternate  
hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

8 Breakfasts

1 Lunch

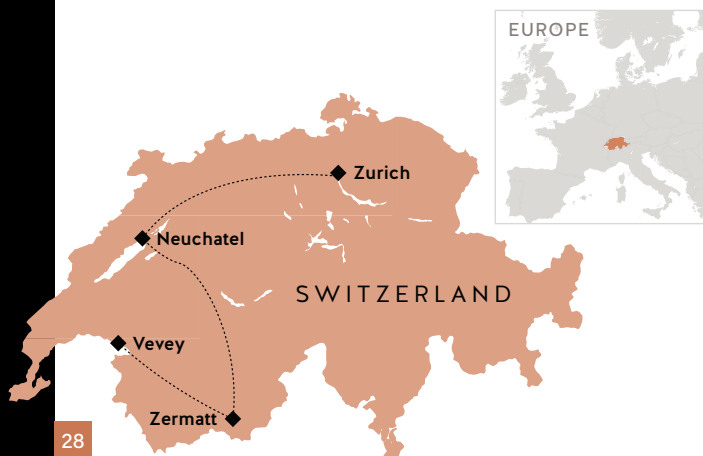
3 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

**Very Active**

*See pg. 6 for details  
on our activity levels.*



## 1 FIND AN IDEAL BALANCE OF GUIDED AND INDEPENDENT EXPLORATION

We've built in extra days just for you in three unique cities. Get the lay of the land first with guided walking tours and experiences, then take time to wander the streets, check out a museum using your Swiss Travel Pass, or get your heart pumping with a little activity. Be sure to turn to your LEAD for suggestions!

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAYS 4, 6, AND 9  
IN NEUCHATEL, ZERMATT, AND VEVEY.







### 3 GET AN ALL-ACCESS PASS TO SWISS CULTURE

On this journey, we'll only travel via the brilliantly efficient Swiss Rail Service (and your own two feet!). In addition to being your ticket for travel from city to city, your First Class Swiss Travel Pass includes an all-access entrée into more than 500 museums and cultural exhibitions throughout Switzerland, as well as local ferries, scenic trains, mountain trams, and more.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS THROUGHOUT SWITZERLAND WITH YOUR SWISS TRAVEL PASS.



### 2 DISCOVER HOW FINE SWISS WINE ACTUALLY IS

Swiss wine is a true treat. So much so that much of it is kept in country. Meet up with our friends, Jacques and Aurélia, for a wine tasting nestled amongst the vines. Enjoy time at their family-run winery, then continue on with a walk along Lavaux's World Heritage vineyards, complemented by stunning views of Lac Léman.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 8 IN LAVAUX.

impact moment:

REDUCING THE  
F<sup>OOT</sup>PRINT  
LEFT BEHIND

The Swiss Rail Service — the efficient, clean, and comfortable way to cross the Swiss Alps — is the perfect way to lower your carbon emissions on tour.

#### WHAT YOU'LL DO

##### DAYS 1-4 NEUCHÂTEL

#### Let Neuchâtel's History Enchant You

- Meet up with your fellow explorers for a reception in the centuries-old cloister of the Collégiale.
- Get to know Neuchâtel, a hidden gem of a city totally off the tourist map. Take a walking tour of the city's historic quarter and drink in gorgeous views of Lake Neuchâtel from your hotel room.
- Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore Neuchâtel and its surroundings.

##### DAYS 5-6 ZERMATT

#### Stand in Awe Before Zermatt's Zenith

- Spend some time exploring Switzerland's capital of Bern.
- Enjoy a full day to wander pedestrian-friendly Zermatt at your leisure. Consider taking the Gornergrat Railway for stunning views of the Matterhorn!

##### DAYS 7-10 VEVEY

#### Indulge Yourself in Vevey

- Stroll the streets of Vevey on a guided walking tour.
- Get a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the artistry of handmade Swiss chocolate during an immersive tasting workshop at Läderach.
- Enjoy time at a family-run winery, then continue on with a walk along Lavaux' World Heritage vineyards.
- 📌 **IT'S YOUR CHOICE:** After visiting a local vineyard, return to Vevey via rail and enjoy the rest of your day at leisure **OR** continue your exploration through the miles of Lavaux vineyards to Saint-Saphorin, a medieval village dating back to Roman times.
- Enjoy a full day at leisure in Vevey, one of the "Pearls of the Swiss Riviera."

Visit [explorations.com/628](https://explorations.com/628) for complete tour details.



# A MILLENNIA OF ITALIAN *history*

In the Italian province of Parma, sitting atop a hill like the crown on the brow of a medieval king, looms **Castello di Tabiano**. When you step through the gates, and settle in for your stay in the shadow of this fantastic place, stop for a moment. Let the history of it wrap you in a story written in another time.

1143-1158 A.D.

## A FORTIFIED POSITION

The original castle was built by the Pallavicino family, sometime around the 11th century, on the ruins of a former Roman fortress. In the area, the hilltop was a natural place for a fortification, giving the occupants of the castle a perfect view of the countryside, and any approaching enemies.

## WAR BETWEEN BROTHERS

The patriarch of the Pallavicino family, the Marquis Oberto I, split his lands among his sons. Delfino Pallavicino, the eldest, took the castle. This didn't sit well with his brother Guglielmo, who attacked his older brother. Guglielmo managed to pillage and destroy both the castle and the town. Delfino rebuilt, officially gained the title of Marquis like his father, and reluctantly signed a peace treaty with his brother.

1180-1300 A.D.

## LOST AND REGAINED

Delfino died with no heirs, so he left his land holdings to the church, and the castle fell out of the hands of the Pallavicino family. It briefly returned to them when the Holy Roman Emperor gave it back to Marquis Oberto II in 1249, but soon the family lost it once again to hostile enemy forces. Oberto's son, Manfredo, recaptured his family's castle at the turn of the 14th century, and left it in the care of his cousins.





1374-1401 A.D.

## NICCOLÒ THE NEFARIOUS

Castello di Tabiano and its surrounding lands lay quiet until Niccolò Pallavicino, in a plot to usurp his family, killed his uncle and cousin to seize control of the castle. He couldn't hold on to it for long, and lords loyal to his uncle stormed the castle and drove him out. They kept possession of the castle until 1390 before giving control back to Niccolò, who got the backing of the Emperor of Luxembourg. Niccolò met a grisly demise when he was poisoned in 1401, and the castle passed on to his son, Rolando the Magnificent.

1441-1756 A.D.

## KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY

Rolando, beset on all sides by enemies, was driven from the castle in 1441. His son, Uberto, managed to ally himself with powerful lords and take the castle back from the enemies of the Pallavicino family in 1457. Uberto managed to do what his father and his father's father could not do – he kept Castello di Tabiano in the control of the Pallavicino family, all the way until the last Marquis died in 1756.

1757-Today

## DECAY AND REBIRTH

With the last of the Pallavicino family gone, Castello di Tabiano's fate was in question. It was left uncared for, the land abandoned to grow wild and the castle left to crumble. At the beginning of the 20th century, the Corazza family restored the castle. Now, it serves as a symbol of history, as well as a luxury hotel complete with world-class cuisine, elegant rooms, and a spa built into a natural cave. When you're here, you'll dine inside the castle, tour this grand place, and sleep in its historic shadow.





Cinque Terre

## ITALY'S TREASURES

Vineyards, olive groves, and cities that float. Incredible history, indelible culture, and unforgettable cuisine. This is *l'Italia* at its most iconic. Set off on a journey to make Italy's treasures yours.

**STARTING AT \$4799\* DAYS 12 MEALS 17**

\*Price based on December 2, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.

### Where You'll Stay

#### Stresa 2 Nights

Regina Palace Hotel or  
Grand Hotel des Iles Barromees

#### Italian Riviera 2 Nights

Grand Hotel dei Castelli or  
Grande Albergo

#### Tuscany 4 Nights

Villa Lecchi, Tuscany or  
Villa Sanpaolo, San Gimignano

#### Venice 2 Nights

Hotel Ca' dei Conti or  
Hotel Bonvecchiati

*On some dates alternate  
hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

**10** Breakfasts

**1** Lunch

**6** Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

**Moderate  
Physical Activity**

*See pg. 6 for details  
on our activity levels.*



## ITALY'S TREASURES

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*



### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-3 STRESA

#### Raise a Glass in Stresa

- Visit a wine shop and enjoy a cocktail party with some *prima di cena* snacks.
- Cruise to Isola dei Pescatori, and get to know new friends over dinner.
- Sample artisanal cheeses, paired with regional wine at an ancient village nestled in the mountains of Stresa.
- Enjoy time to explore Stresa on your own.



## 1 FEAST ON THE WONDERS OF FLORENCE

In the “Cradle of the Renaissance,” a treasure trove of culture, cuisine, art, and architecture lays before you. The compact city is easy for exploration, allowing you to make the most of your free afternoon here. We'll show you the way on a guided walking tour of the city, then let you wander through the cobbled streets to find your own memories.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 7 IN FLORENCE.



## 2 FILL YOUR PALATE WITH THE FLAVOURS OF TUSCANY

In the heart of the Tuscan countryside, you'll get an intimate look into a family-run wine estate. Tour the wine cellar, vineyards and olive groves, then craft an authentic Tuscan lunch with the estate's own chef. Break bread with new friends and toast with wines produced on-site.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 9 IN TUSCANY.



## 3 EXPERIENCE A CRAFT CENTURIES IN THE MAKING

On a tiny island just off Venice's north coast, the art of glass is alive and well. See this centuries-old artform for yourself during a trip to Murano. In the workshop of a talented artisan, you'll watch molten glass become a work of art right before your eyes. *Bellissimo!*

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 11 IN VENICE.

### DAYS 4-5 ITALIAN RIVIERA

#### Be Romanced by the Italian Riviera

- Witness picture-perfect views of the lakes region from Lake Orta.
- Sail to Isola di San Giulio to visit this island's working convent.
- Travel to magical Cinque Terre and enjoy free time to uncover the medieval charm of these five villages.

### DAYS 6-9 TUSCANY

#### Traipse Through Tuscany

- ✓ Choose how you'll spend your afternoon in Lucca. Discover Lucca's old-world ambiance on foot **OR** by bike.
- Indulge in local seasonal delicacies during a tour of Lucca's specialty food shops.
- Set out on a walking tour of Florence to get the lay of the land, then take the rest of the day to explore on your own.
- Walk the medieval streets of Siena on a guided tour.
- Tour a family-run wine estate, then make lunch with the estate's chef.
- Retreat nightly to your Tuscan villa.

### DAYS 10-12 VENICE

#### Be Bewitched by Venice

- Enjoy a walking tour of historic Bologna, then take some time to stroll the streets on your own.
- Join a local guide for a tour of Venice's incredible sites.
- Journey to the island of Murano to visit a local artisan's workshop.

Visit [explorations.com/304](https://explorations.com/304) for complete tour details.



## ITALY'S BELLA VITA

This is your moment to live the good life. With each day and each destination, immerse yourself in Italy's *bella vita*. Incredible culture, fantastic cuisine, and captivating landscapes are yours for the discovering.

**STARTING AT \$4999\* DAYS 9 MEALS 11**

\*Price based on July 13, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.

### Where You'll Stay

#### Florence 2 Nights

Hotel Pierre

#### Bologna 2 Nights

I Portici Hotel

#### Parma 1 Night

Antico Borgo di Tabiano Castello

#### Como 2 Nights

Hilton Lake Como

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

### Included Meals

7 Breakfasts

4 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

**Active**

See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.



## ITALY'S BELLA VITA

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*

#### 1 VENTURE THROUGH TUSCANY ON TWO WHEELS

Olive groves and vineyards stretch for miles as the sun warms your shoulders. This is the magic of Tuscany, and it all unfolds from the seat of a Vespa! Join a local expert on a tour of Tuscany's countryside before relaxing with a glass of wine at a castle. Not feeling that adventurous? Stay back and explore the castle's family-run vineyard on foot.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 3 IN FLORENCE.**



#### 3 SLEEP AMID HUNDREDS OF YEARS OF HISTORY

The epicentre for wars and sieges, love and betrayal, poetry and legend, Castello di Tabiano is a living connection to Parma's past. Wander the grounds, take a private tour with a local expert, and slowly fall under its captivating spell. Then, retreat to your room on the castle's grounds and soak up the rich history that abounds from this centuries-old defensive monument.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 6 IN PARMA.**





## 2 INDULGE IN A LITTLE HOME COOKING

There's no match for home cooking, and that rings truest in Italy. In the cozy surrounds of a private apartment in Bologna's historic centre, you'll roll up your sleeves and learn the secrets to making three traditional pasta recipes. Enjoy the fruits of your labour over dinner, paired with local wines and accompanied by espresso with dessert.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 4 IN BOLOGNA.

### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-3 FLORENCE

##### Feel the Renaissance Come Alive in Florence

- Savour a quintessentially Italian experience, the *aperitivo*, when you learn to craft one of Italy's most famous cocktails, the *Spritz*.
- Take a walking tour through hundreds of years of Florentine history and discover the city's beating heart.
- Join a local expert for a Vespa tour of Tuscany's countryside before relaxing with a glass of wine at a castle.
- Retreat to the countryside to Castello di Trebbio, where wine and centuries of history flow plentifully.

#### DAYS 4-6 BOLOGNA • PARMA

##### Feast on Bologna & Parma's Unrivalled Flavour

- Take the train to Bologna, where **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!** Join an expert-guided walk of this medieval city **OR** pedal the narrow lanes and winding alleys on a bicycle tour.
- Take a full day on your own to feel the unique vibe of Bologna, a city steeped in the past, but very much alive with an eclectic presence.
- Roll up your sleeves and learn the secrets to making three traditional pasta recipes in the cozy surrounds of a private apartment.
- Experience the workings of a local cheese shop and sample the Parmigiano-Reggiano this region is famous for.

#### DAYS 7-9 COMO

##### Relax in the Tranquil Beauty of Lake Como

- Cruise to Bellagio. Take a tour of the "Pearl of the Lake," then spend the afternoon independently exploring.
- Join your guide and catch a sunrise funicular ride to watch the lake wake up, then explore Como's lakeside trails and frescoed hamlets on foot, or remain at the hotel to relax.

Visit [explorations.com/629](https://explorations.com/629) for complete tour details.



Tuscany

# TUSCAN AND UMBRIAN COUNTRYSIDE

## 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*

### 1 FEEL RIGHT AT HOME IN UMBRIA

Home is where the heart of culture is. Join our local Umbrian friends for a soul-warming meal prepared right in their home and discover that the comforts of a home-cooked meal really do translate across cultures and languages. It will be a meal to remember!

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 6 IN UMBRIA.



## TUSCAN AND UMBRIAN COUNTRYSIDE

Winding country roads bounded by miles of vines, soul-warming meals paired with full-bodied vintages, quiet hill towns and ancient cities—this is a land where time stands still. Fill up your plate, raise a glass, and let Tuscany and Umbria seduce every sense.

STARTING AT **\$3999\*** DAYS **11** MEALS **16**

*\*Price based on November 9, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.*

#### Where You'll Stay

##### Rome 1 Night

Hotel Kolbe

##### Umbria 4 Nights

Hotel Antica Dimora Alla Rocca, Trevi or Hotel Dei Duchi, Spoleto

##### Tuscany 4 Nights

UNA Palazzo Mannaioni, Montaione

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

#### Included Meals

9 Breakfasts

3 Lunches

4 Dinners

#### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

Active

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels..*





## 2 AN ITALY FEW GET TO EXPERIENCE

A visit to a country restaurant, sheltered inside a 16th century farmhouse, is a charming step into yesterday. Stroll the herb garden (weather permitting), and learn how cheese is made on the farm. Your palate-expanding journey continues as you join the chef for a hands-on Umbrian cooking lesson.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 4 IN THE UMBRIAN COUNTRYSIDE.



## 3 TOAST TO TUSCAN HOSPITALITY

Time slows down among the sunflower-covered hills and villages of Tuscany's Val d'Orcia region. Among the vineyards and olive groves, tour a winery's family estate and cellar before indulging in an authentic Tuscan lunch, created by the winery's chef and paired expertly with the vineyard's very own wines.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 7 IN TUSCANY.



### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-6 ROME • UMBRIA

##### The Old World is Alive in Umbria

- Kick off your journey with dinner in Rome.
- Join a local expert in the Etruscan hill town of Orvieto, then take the afternoon to explore on your own.
- Enjoy walking tours of ancient Spoleto, medieval Assisi, and the walled town of Bevagna.
- Visit a country restaurant for a chef-led cooking lesson.
- Head to a local winery to sample their vintages and a variety of authentic Umbrian dishes.
- Delight in the comforts of a home-cooked meal in a local Umbrian family's home.
- Pay a visit to a local family-run 'frantoio' or olive presser.

#### DAYS 7-11 TUSCANY

##### Step in to a Living Postcard in Tuscany

- Take a locally guided walking tour of Florence, then explore more of the city on your own.
  - Tap in to your creative side with visits to local artisans' workshops.
  - Tour a winery's family estate and indulge in an authentic Tuscan lunch, created by the winery's chef and paired with the vineyard's own wines.
  - Set out on a guided walking tour of Siena.
- Y IT'S YOUR CHOICE IN SIENA:** Explore the beautiful Gothic cathedral at your own pace **OR** join a guide and immerse yourself in local life in a Contrada, a small, close-knit community.
- Enjoy dinner paired with an interactive presentation on wine, delivered by the restaurant's own sommelier.

Visit [explorations.com/390](https://explorations.com/390) for complete tour details.





## THE NOVELTIES OF NORTHERN SPAIN

Enliven the senses and engage your sense of adventure on an exploration of Northern Spain's dynamic cultures. Against a landscape of centuries-old architecture, history, art, gastronomy, and culture, discover the nuances and novelties of Northern Spain.

**STARTING AT \$4549\*** DAYS 10 MEALS 11

*\*Price based on November 7, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.*

### Where You'll Stay

#### Barcelona 2 Nights

H10 Cubik

#### Pamplona 1 Night

Hotel Maisonnave

#### San Sebastián 2 Nights

Barceló Costa Vasca

#### Burgos 2 Nights

NH Collection Palacio de Burgos

#### Madrid 1 Night

NH Madrid Nacional

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

8 Breakfasts

3 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

**Moderate Physical Activity**

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.*



## THE NOVELTIES OF NORTHERN SPAIN

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*



### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-4 BARCELONA • PAMPLONA

#### Be Enchanted by Barcelona & Pamplona

- Drink in views of a lively Mediterranean port during a cocktail reception.
- Walk the halls of the famous La Sagrada Família Church and Towers.
- Make a few signature Catalan dishes at a hands-on workshop led by locally acclaimed chefs.
- Discover Barcelona on a guided tour of the city, then enjoy free time to explore on your own.
- Learn about Pamplona's history and ties to the San Fermin festival during a discussion with a local expert.



## 2 EXPERIENCE BURGOS' GOTHIC GRANDEUR

Reminders of Burgos' Gothic past are everywhere you turn, from the impressive Burgos Cathedral to your historic hotel, the NH Collection Palacio de Burgos. The halls of this former convent hold a stunning treasure—an original stone cloister. Settle in for an unrivalled history lesson as you spend two nights in this 16th-century complex.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAYS 7 & 8 IN BURGOS.



## 1 TAKE A FULL DAY TO EXPLORE SAN SEBASTIÁN HOW YOU WISH

The sophisticated coastal city of San Sebastián invites you to indulge in its many charms. Be swept away by the allure of golden beaches and lush hillsides and indulge in its world-class culinary scene. With a full day of leisure, you'll have plenty of time to discover this wonderful city.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 6 IN SAN SEBASTIÁN.



## 3 DON AN APRON AND DISH UP SOME CATALAN CUISINE

Head to one of Barcelona's liveliest neighbourhoods and try your hand at making signature Catalan dishes. This hands-on workshop, led by locally acclaimed chefs, puts a world of flavour at your fingertips. Learn the secrets and techniques to crafting regional favourites like paella, and enjoy the fruits of your labour for dinner.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 3 IN BARCELONA.



### DAYS 5-6 SAN SEBASTIÁN

#### Discover the Seaside Retreat of San Sebastián

- IT'S YOUR CHOICE: In San Sebastián, join a guided tour of the city's old town and ascend Mount Igeldo aboard a funicular **OR** set out for a guided walk through the farms, vineyards, and villages along the Coastal Camino route.
- Enjoy a full day of leisure to explore San Sebastián on your own terms.

### DAYS 7-8 BURGOS

#### Walk in the Past in Burgos

- Witness centuries of history unfold before your eyes during a walking tour of Burgos.
- Enjoy a leisurely afternoon in Burgos to explore how you wish.
- Settle in for an unrivalled history lesson as you spend two nights in a former 16th-century convent.

### DAYS 9-10 MADRID

#### Experience the Electricity of Madrid

- Shop as the Spaniards would on a visit inside one of Madrid's bustling marketplaces.
- Toast to new friends and many memories as you celebrate your unforgettable Spanish holiday over dinner.

Visit [explorations.com/624](https://explorations.com/624) for complete tour details.

THE  
*silence*  
AND THE  
*stars*



## NIGHTTIME IN THE HEART OF THE SAHARA DESERT

The night sky in the Sahara isn't something that can be captured well in pictures, or even in words. The night sky overhead, filled with an uncountable multitude of stars, somehow makes you feel both small and also part of something greater. It makes you feel alone in the vastness of the sky, but connected to everyone on earth that is looking up to the same sky at that moment.

Surrounded by a rolling blanket of endless dunes in all directions, you'll quickly realize why you've come here. You're wrapped in a silence and a stillness that can only be experienced far out in the desert, far from the world, far from everything you know. You've journeyed here past the Middle Atlas Mountains, through Erfoud, known as the "gateway to the desert," and arrived here.

*A journey* WORTH TAKING.

---

Feel the stillness of the desert on  
COLOURS OF MOROCCO pg. 42

Visit [explorations.com/564](https://explorations.com/564) for complete tour details.

---



Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca

## COLOURS OF MOROCCO

From vibrant cities to the still of the desert, Morocco will enchant you with its deep history, unique atmosphere and welcoming people.

**STARTING AT \$3099\* DAYS 11 MEALS 17**

*\*Price based on November 7, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.*

### Where You'll Stay

#### Casablanca 1 Night

Hotel Val D'Anfa

#### Fes 2 Nights

Riad Yacout

#### Sahara Desert 2 Nights

Xaluca Luxe Bivouacs Belle Etoile

#### Boumaïne du Dades 1 Night

Hotel Xaluca Dades

#### Marrakech 3 Nights

Es Saadi Hotel

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

9 Breakfasts

2 Lunches

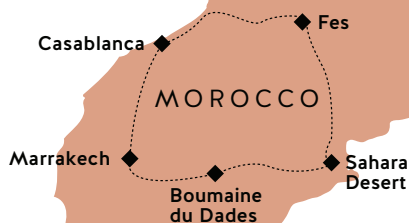
6 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

Active

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.*



## COLOURS OF MOROCCO

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*

#### 1 LOCAL LEATHER TANNERIES CAPTIVATE WITH COLOUR

In the heart of Fes, you'll see merchants selling vibrant leather goods in every shade of the rainbow. You'll get a bird's-eye view of the tanneries where these goods are fashioned and witness an eye-catching honeycomb of vats in brilliant colours. Watch as artisans work their craft that's remained virtually unchanged for centuries.

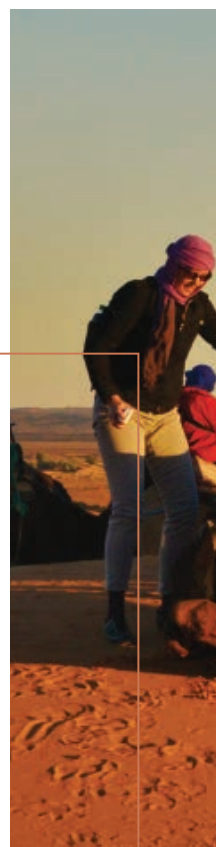
>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 4 IN FES.



#### 3 EXPERIENCE TWO NIGHTS OF SERENITY IN THE DESERT

A 4x4 jeep provides your transportation to a desert camp in the Sahara. For the next two nights, in the tranquil silence of the desert, you'll drift off to sleep in a fully equipped Berber-style tent. As each morning dawns, enjoy amazing views of the sunrise and the perfect stillness of the desert. Return from the camp via camel, as the morning light greets the dunes.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAYS 5 AND 6 IN THE SAHARA DESERT.







## 2 PREPARE A LUNCH AND HELP LOCAL WOMEN STAND STRONG

Gather fresh and local ingredients and prepare for a special culinary workshop at the Amal Centre, a social enterprise benefiting disadvantaged women. Here at Amal, women are trained in every aspect of the restaurant industry to help them secure a job and their own financial independence.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 10 IN MARRAKECH.



### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-4 CASABLANCA • FES

#### We'll Always Have Morocco: Casablanca to Fes

- Gaze upon a rainbow of ceramic tile (called zellij) and the hand-carved stone of the Hassan II Mosque.
- Visit the Mausoleum of Mohammed V in Rabat, the capital of Morocco.
- Discover Fes: see the Jewish Quarter, the city ramparts, and the gates of the palace, then take a walking tour of the Medina.
- Witness the brilliantly hued honeycomb of vats at Fes' leather tanneries.
- Spend two nights in a traditional riad.

#### DAYS 5-7 SAHARA DESERT • BOUMALNE DU DADES

#### Into the Desert

- Jump into a 4x4 vehicle to explore the Sahara before spending the next two nights in a luxury desert camp.
- Meet a desert farmer, visit a local village, and meet with a nomadic community before watching the sun set over the sands.
- Soak in the tranquil silence of the desert, under a stunning blanket of stars.
- Return from your desert stay via camel.
- Visit and overnight in Morocco's "Grand Canyon," Boumalne Du Dades.

#### DAYS 8-11 MARRAKECH

#### Awaken Your Senses in Marrakech

- Discover the treasures of Marrakech: ancient El Bahia Palace, historic Jewish Mellah, and the majestic 12th-century Koutoubia Mosque.
- Select fresh and local ingredients for your culinary workshop at a social enterprise benefitting women.
- Wander the expansive labyrinth of souks, homes, and businesses within the 1,000-year-old walls of the Medina.
- Y In Marrakech, **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!** Tour Jardin Majorelle and the Berber Museum. **OR**, explore the Yves Saint Laurent Museum.
- Conclude your journey with dinner in a palace.

Visit [explorations.com/564](https://explorations.com/564) for complete tour details.



## THE PLAINS OF AFRICA

Prepare to see an Africa you've only known in your dreams, and one you never knew existed. Explore Kenya's wildlife, up close and personal, against a stunningly untamed backdrop.

**STARTING AT \$5884\*** DAYS 14 MEALS 33

*\*Price based on June 27, 2019 departure.  
Per person, double, land only.*

### Where You'll Stay

#### Nairobi 1 Night

Sarova Stanley Hotel

#### Nyeri 1 Night

Aberdare Country Club

#### Shaba Reserve 2 Nights

Sarova Shaba Lodge

#### Nyeri 1 Night

The Ark Hotel

#### Lake Nakuru 2 Nights

Sarova Lion Hill Lodge

#### Masai Mara 2 Nights

Sarova Mara Camp

#### Nairobi 1 Night

Sarova Stanley Hotel

#### Amboseli 2 Nights

Oi Tukai Lodge

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

12 Breakfasts

11 Lunches

10 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

Active

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.*



## THE PLAINS OF AFRICA

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*

#### 1 HEAD INTO THE WILD ON ELEVEN GAME DRIVES

Get ready to fill up your mind and memory card with the images of Kenya's striking landscapes and variety of wildlife, including the "Big 5." Early morning and late afternoon drives seek to deliver you the best opportunity to spy the animals that call each destination home.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS THROUGHOUT YOUR TRAVELS IN KENYA.**

#### 2 CONNECT WITH MASAI CULTURE

Spend an afternoon getting to know the Masai people. You'll be a welcomed visitor in a local village (called an enkeng in Maa, the Masai language) and see a slice of everyday life. Later, as you indulge in a traditional bush dinner, take in the incredible sights of a Masai dance performance.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 9 IN MASAI MARA.**



### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-3 NAIROBI • NYERI

##### Getting Back to Nature in Nairobi & Nyeri

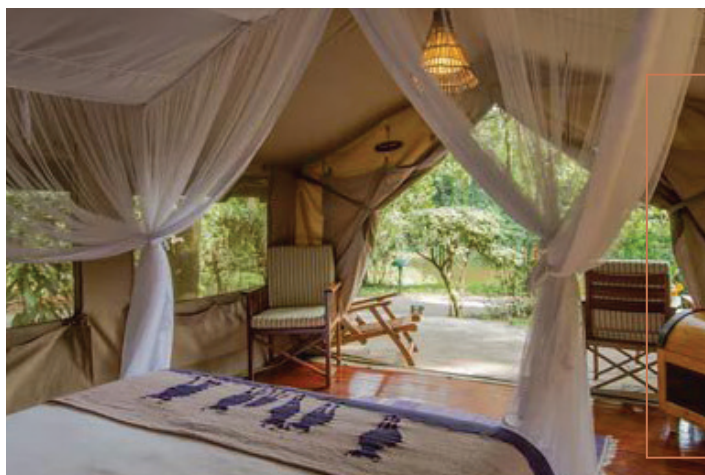
- Seize an opportunity to give back to nature with a "seedball." The compact balls of seed limit the cost of planting indigenous trees.
- Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore Aberdare Country Club's amenities like golfing, nature walks, and spa treatments.

#### DAYS 4-5 SHABA RESERVE

##### Shaba Reserve: The Africa You've Always Imagined

- Discover the magic of the Shaba, Samburu and Buffalo Springs reserves on three game drives.
- Enjoy a traditional Sundowner as the sun sets over the banks of the Ewaso Ng'iro River.
- In the company of a Samburu tribe member, learn about the culture, traditions, and folklore of the Samburu region and its people.





### 3 THIS IS TRUE SAFARI LIFE

Tucked in a deluxe tented camp for two nights, you'll experience the adventure of sleeping in the heart of nature (with plenty of creature comforts). This relaxing retreat in the wilds of the Masai Mara Game Reserve is the perfect way to live the safari life without giving up the amenities of a lodge.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAYS 9-10 IN MASAI MARA GAME RESERVE.

#### DAYS 6-8 NYERI • LAKE NAKURU

##### Stay Where the Wild Things Are

- Join a discussion about conservation efforts and anti-poaching measures in the region.
- Stay amongst the wildlife at The Ark Hotel, and spy animal activity at the floodlit water hole.
- Embark on two game drives in the wildlife haven of Lake Nakuru, your home for two nights.
- Get a true taste of Africa with a traditional breakfast prepared right in the bush.

#### DAYS 9-10 MASAI MARA

##### Dreaming in the Wilds of Masai Mara

- Embark on three game drives in arguably the most stunning game viewing reserve in all of Kenya— the Masai Mara.
- Visit a local Masai village and see a slice of everyday life.
- Indulge in a traditional bush dinner, complete with a Masai dance performance.
- Take in the vast landscape of the Mara during a picnic stop.
- Spend two nights being lulled to sleep by the sounds of the wild in a deluxe tented camp.

#### DAYS 11-14 NAIROBI • AMBOSELI

##### In the Land of Giants in Amboseli

- Return to Nairobi and visit the house of Karen Blixen, author of *Out of Africa*.
- Seek a glimpse of free-running lions, roaming herds of elephants, wildebeests, zebras and more during three game drives in Amboseli National Park.

Visit [explorations.com/146](https://explorations.com/146) for complete tour details.





Cape of Good Hope

## EXPLORING SOUTH AFRICA, VICTORIA FALLS AND BOTSWANA

Thread by thread, the tapestry of South African life comes alive before your very eyes. From the “Big 5” to connecting with the people who call this place home, this is a journey to remember.

**STARTING AT \$6684\*** **DAYS 14** **MEALS 23**

\*Price based on August 21, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.

### Where You'll Stay

#### Cape Town 3 Nights

Commodore Hotel

#### Stellenbosch 2 Nights

Spier Hotel or  
De Zalze Lodge

#### Entabeni 2 Nights

Hanglip Mountain Lodge

#### Johannesburg 1 Night

Hallmark House

#### Victoria Falls 2 Nights

Victoria Falls Safari Lodge

#### Kasane 2 Nights

Chobe Marina Lodge

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

12 Breakfasts

3 Lunches

8 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

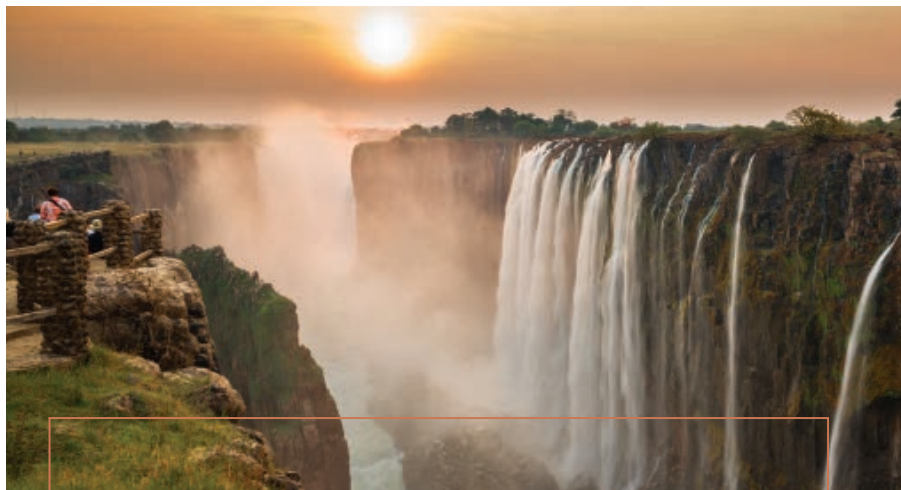
**Active**

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.*



## EXPLORING SOUTH AFRICA, VICTORIA FALLS & BOTSWANA

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*



#### 1 STAND IN AWE BEFORE VICTORIA FALLS

There are some things in this world that defy definition. Standing before the thunderous rush of water at Victoria Falls will certainly be one of those events. Enjoy time here in the afternoon, when the rainbows just off the water are simply spectacular.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 10 IN VICTORIA FALLS.**







### 3 GET AN IN-DEPTH PEEK AT EVERYDAY LIFE

Embark on a captivating tour of a local village with our friend, a most passionate village elder. From a casual chat inside an open-roofed lapa that's welcomed dignitaries and local leaders, to the surrounding fields, bush, and round houses with perfectly swept yards, discover a palpable energy in a place where traditions are expressed with pride.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 11 IN VICTORIA FALLS.

### 2 EXPERIENCE THREE DIFFERENT WAYS TO SAFARI

You'll get to experience a variety of ways to spot wildlife during seven safaris. Cruise down the Chobe, set out on a walking safari with an expert, hop in a 4x4 in a private reserve. With so many ways to catch an up-close glimpse at wildlife, you're bound to have a memorable encounter!

>> EXPERIENCE THROUGHOUT YOUR TRAVELS IN SOUTH AFRICA.



#### WHAT YOU'LL DO

##### DAYS 1-4 CAPE TOWN

#### Get to Know Cosmopolitan Cape Town

- Whisk away to the top of Table Mountain for incredible views of Cape Town and beyond.
- Enjoy free time to explore Cape Town how you choose.
- Take an easy hike along Cape of Good Hope, ending at Bolders Beach, home to endangered African penguins.
- Eat a delicious meal in a local family's home.

##### DAYS 5-6 STELLENBOSCH

#### Sip and Savour Stellenbosch's Wine Country

- Enjoy an afternoon at leisure in Stellenbosch's picturesque wine country.
- Sample the region's most renowned wines.
- Choose to spend a day of leisure in Stellenbosch **OR** discover the maritime village of Hermanus.

##### DAYS 7-9 ENTABENI • JOHANNESBURG

#### Nature and Culture Revealed from Entabeni to "Joburg"

- Head out in search of the "Big 5" on 4 game drives through Entabeni Conservancy.
- Join a ranger and tracker to follow clues left by wildlife tracks.
- Indulge in dinner under a blanket of stars.
- Explore Maboneng, the epicentre of the "Joburg" inner-city renaissance. Stay one night in this regenerated cultural hub where history, business, and lifestyle blend seamlessly.

##### DAYS 10-11 VICTORIA FALLS

#### Behold the Power of Victoria Falls

- Stand before stunning Victoria Falls in the afternoon, when the rainbows are at their best.
- Indulge in a Boma dinner as traditional dancers and drummers surround you.
- Interact with African elephants in their own habitat.
- Explore a local village.

##### DAYS 12-14 KASANE

#### Discovering Life in Chobe

- Look for elephants, hippos, crocodiles and more on a safari cruise along Botswana's Chobe River.
- Explore the diverse ecosystems of Chobe National Park.
- **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!** Continue the wildlife search by land on an afternoon game drive, **OR** hit the river for a safari cruise.
- Learn the secrets to cooking a traditional braai during a chef-hosted dinner by the river.

Visit [explorations.com/466](https://explorations.com/466) for complete tour details.



## TSAVO NATIONAL PARK

### 3-NIGHT PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

Heed the call of the wild as you explore the many wonders of Tsavo National Park. From rare red elephants to the bounty of animals at Mzima Springs, countless wonders await.

**\$1790-\$1920\* MEALS 7**

*\*Per person, double, land only. Rates include park fees.*

#### WHAT YOU'LL DO

- Settle in for a two-night stay at a lodge in the heart of Tsavo National Park. Set upon stilts and overlooking a watering hole, your lodge offers plenty of opportunities to view wildlife in a comfortable setting.
- Embark on an afternoon game drive in Tsavo National Park, in search of majestic elephants and other impressive fauna.
- In the private game reserve of Taita Hill Sanctuary, set out to spot lions, elephants, impalas, oryx and more.

**ADD THIS  
EXTENSION TO:  
THE PLAINS  
OF AFRICA**



**ADD THIS  
EXTENSION TO:  
THE PLAINS  
OF AFRICA**

## TANZANIA

### 4-NIGHT POST-TOUR EXTENSION

See the unparalleled beauty of the natural world unfold around you in these stunning and rugged African parks – Serengeti National Park and Ngorongoro Crater.

**\$2370-\$3135\* MEALS 12**

*\*Per person, double, land only. Rates include park fees.*

#### WHAT YOU'LL DO

- Enjoy a full-day game drive in Serengeti National Park, undoubtedly the most famous wildlife sanctuary in the world.
- Safari across the Ngorongoro Crater, the largest intact caldera in the world, teeming with wildlife residing on the lush crater floor.



impact moment:

# SEEDS OF CHANGE

In Kenya, deforestation has run rampant across the beautiful landscape. Trees have been cleared in droves for firewood and lumber at an unsustainable rate. What might

seem like a single issue, loss of trees, rapidly causes a

domino effect across the ecosystem, causing the harmony of the natural world to be disrupted. To counter-act this, people in Kenya have developed "seed balls," literally golf ball sized spheres of seeds and fertilizer. They scatter them from airplanes over large patches of deforested land, but also hand them out to travellers

coming into Kenya. These seed balls are so robust, and so cost-effective to make, that the people of Kenya want travellers to scatter them everywhere. This is a monumental effort taken in tiny steps by thousands of people, replanting forests one seed at a time.



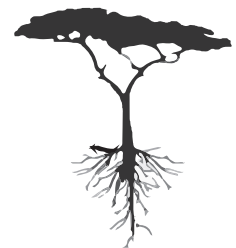
THROW



WAIT...



GROW!



**ADD THIS  
EXTENSION TO:  
EXPLORING SOUTH  
AFRICA, VICTORIA  
FALLS AND  
BOTSWANA**

## DUBAI

### 3-NIGHT PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

Discover this ultra-modern city before exploring the ancient, alluring charm of the desert.

**\$880\* MEALS 4**

*\*Per person, double, land only.*

#### WHAT YOU'LL DO

- Enjoy magnificent views of the world famous Burj Al Arab hotel.
- View the Al Bastakia old wind-towered houses built by wealthy merchants.
- Travel by abra, a traditional water taxi.
- Embark on an exciting desert safari and ride aboard luxury 4x4 vehicles over rolling sand dunes through the Dubai desert.
- Arrive at a desert campsite where a feast awaits you and enjoy a belly dancing performance.



Red-Eyed Tree Frog

# COSTA RICA: A WORLD OF NATURE

By land and by sea, thrilling journeys await as you seek out to discover the essence of Pura Vida. Pull back the curtain of the rainforest and step inside to experience life unfiltered. This is where the wild things are.

STARTING AT **\$3549\*** DAYS **12** MEALS **24**  
*\*Price based on October 20, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.*

### Where You'll Stay

- San José 1 Night**  
Doubletree by Hilton Cariari Hotel
- Tortuguero 2 Nights**  
Evergreen Lodge
- San Carlos 2 Nights**  
Tilajari Hotel Resort
- Arenal 3 Nights**  
Hotel Arenal Springs
- Manuel Antonio 2 Nights**  
Parador Resort and Spa
- San José 1 Night**  
Doubletree by Hilton Cariari Hotel

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

### Included Meals

- 11 Breakfasts
- 5 Lunches
- 8 Dinners

### Activity Level

- 1 2 3 4 5

Active  
See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.



# COSTA RICA: A WORLD OF NATURE

## 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*

### 1 CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

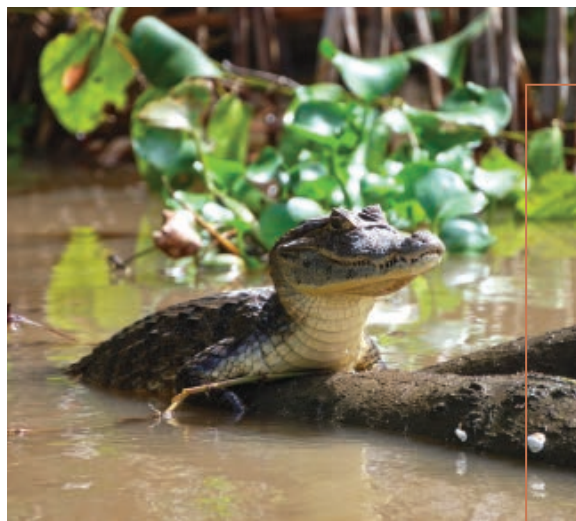
When in the birthplace of zip lining, you zip line! Experience Costa Rica's thrilling landscapes from above as you glide over lush green canopies. -OR- Make your way across lava fields for an up-close-and-personal look at Arenal Volcano on a moderate hike along the trails. >> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 7 IN ARENAL.

### 2 BECOME ONE WITH NATURE

From a jungle oasis in Tortuguero, to the remote wonders of Manuel Antonio National Park, nature is truly all around you. Enjoy two nights in each locale, where you can seek out the elusive green macaw and let monkeys be your alarm clock in Tortuguero, and enjoy free time in Manuel Antonio to hike or go for a swim in turquoise waters. >> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAYS 2-3 AND 9-10 IN TORTUGUERO AND MANUEL ANTONIO.







### 3 TAKE A FLOAT ON THE WILD SIDE

Get up close with crocodiles as you head down the Tárcoles River on an exhilarating jungle safari. Float along beneath the towering jungle, looking just below the water's surface for a glimpse of these incredible creatures that heavily populate this section of the river.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 9 IN TÁRCOLES.

#### WHAT YOU'LL DO

##### DAYS 1-3 SAN JOSÉ • TORTUGUERO

#### Welcome to the Jungle

- Start your journey in Costa Rica's culture hub, the capital of San José.
- Venture to Tortuguero National Park, where you'll stay two nights amongst the wildlife.
- Visit the world's first green turtle research station.
- Embark on a nature cruise through Tortuguero for a peek behind the rainforest's lush green walls.

##### DAYS 4-5 SAN CARLOS

#### Savour the Fruits of Sarapiquí

- Cut through the mists of the rainforest as you travel from Tortuguero to Sarapiquí.
  - Indulge in a taste of Costa Rica with a visit to a cacao plantation.
  - See the region from a different perspective on a rafting trip along the river that's a perfect balance of excitement and relaxation.
- Y **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!** Explore the rich landscape on horseback **OR** take a guided walk through a private, primary forest reserve.

##### DAYS 6-8 ARENAL

#### Awaken Your Sense of Adventure in Arenal

- Suspended over the rainforest floor, take in a birds-eye view of the jungle on a guided tour of Arenal's famous hanging bridges.
- Y **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!** Zip line over lush green canopies **OR** take a moderate hike past Arenal's lava fields.
- Roll up your sleeves for a hands-on cooking demonstration; then savour the local flavours of Costa Rica during a traditional dinner.
  - Enjoy a full day at leisure to wander the grounds of your resort, soak in the famous hot springs, or set off on an optional excursion.

##### DAYS 9-12 MANUEL ANTONIO • SAN JOSÉ

#### Get in Touch with Nature at Manuel Antonio

- Witness colourful birds, hike rugged rainforests, and enjoy pristine beaches prime for swimming and snorkeling in Manuel Antonio National Park.
- Get up close with crocodiles as you head down the Tárcoles River on an exhilarating jungle safari.
- Wake up and smell the coffee at a local farm that produces some of Costa Rica's well-known beans.
- Return to San José and recount your memories and special moments as you bid farewell to Costa Rica and your fellow explorers.



Visit [explorations.com/294](https://explorations.com/294) for complete tour details.



Cartagena

## EXPERIENCE COLOMBIA

Colombia's pulse beats strong with a red-hot culture steeped in history, art, and tradition. Thriving cities, remote jungles, and warm, welcoming people await you in this multi-faceted jewel of South America.

**STARTING AT \$3299\* DAYS 10 MEALS 14**

*\*Price based on July 8, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.*

*Rates do not include inter-tour air.*

### Where You'll Stay

#### Bogotá 2 Nights

Movich Chicó 97

#### Pereira Coffee Region 2 Nights

San Carlos Lodge

#### Medellín 2 Nights

Hotel Park 10

#### Cartagena 3 Nights

Hyatt Regency

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

9 Breakfasts

1 Lunch

4 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

#### Active

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.*

### SOUTH AMERICA



## EXPERIENCE COLOMBIA

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*



### 1 ADVENTURE IS BREWING IN COCORA VALLEY

Feel the wind in your hair and spy vivid green as far as you can see as you ride through Cocora Valley in equipped 4x4 jeeps known as "Willys." Afterward, choose your next adventure. Hike the valley with a guide, pausing to look up at the sky-high wax palms or travel on horseback to see the valley through the eyes of a Colombian farmer.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 4 IN COCORA VALLEY.**

### 3 GET A TASTE OF LOCAL LIFE

A happy overload of exotic fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, herbs, and flowers, Paloquemao Market is a haven for foodies. Stroll the market's rainbow displays while your guide dishes out some favourite samples. A bit off the well-worn path, you won't find the stalls clogged with tourists, but teeming with locals and thriving with an intoxicating energy.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 2 IN BOGOTÁ.**







## 2 SEE A NEIGHBOURHOOD TRANSFORMED BY ART

Comuna 13, once Colombia's most notorious neighbourhood, is a barrio reborn. Meet up with a neighbourhood resident and walk the streets, vibrant with bold murals and stunning graffiti art, to learn of Comuna 13's past, present, and promising future.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 6 IN MEDELLÍN.



### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-2 BOGOTÁ

##### Feel the Beat of Bogotá

- Get to know the city on a lively walking tour.
- Explore the artifacts at Museo del Oro.
- Stroll Paloquemao Market's rainbow displays while your guide dishes out some favourite samples.

#### DAYS 3-4 PEREIRA COFFEE REGION

##### Breathe in the Coffee Region's Splendour

- Learn about the coffee-making process and sample the perks of the region, bean to cup.
- Experience the majesty of the Cocora Valley aboard equipped 4x4 jeeps known as "Willys."
- Enjoy a locally sourced picnic lunch.
- Explore Salento on your own, discovering quaint streets, local artisans, and *paisa* architecture.

#### DAYS 5-7 MEDELLÍN

##### Behold Medellín's Vibrant Spirit

- Dine with the locals in the city of Medellín and indulge in a specially cultivated tasting menu.
- Join a local resident for a poignant walking tour through the vibrantly muraled neighbourhood of Comuna 13.
- Meet with a *silletero* and learn firsthand what a "day in the life" of a flower farmer is like.

#### DAYS 8-10 CARTAGENA

##### Step in to Cartagena's Culture

- Take in the history and lively energy of Cartagena during a tour of this stunning Caribbean city.
- Enjoy a full day to explore Cartagena at your leisure.

Visit [explorations.com/630](https://explorations.com/630) for complete tour details.





Machu Picchu, Peru

# MACHU PICCHU & THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

**3** EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*

## MACHU PICCHU & THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

Uncover mysteries that dwell among the wonders, ruins, and unspoiled lands of South America. From the “**Lost City of the Incas**” to the mysteries of the **Galápagos Islands**, you’ll delve deep into ancient cultures, then dive deeper into the wonders of nature.

**STARTING AT \$9104\*** **DAYS 15** **MEALS 30**

*\*Price based on October 29, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.*

*Rates do not include inter-tour air.*

### Where You'll Stay

#### Lima 2 Nights

Casa Andina Premium Miraflores

#### Sacred Valley 2 Nights

Casa Andina Premium Sacred Valley

#### Aguas Calientes 1 Night

Sumaq Machu Picchu Hotel

#### Cuzco 2 Nights

Casa Andina Premium

#### Quito 2 Nights

Mercure Grand Hotel Alameda

#### Galápagos Islands 4 Nights

m/v Galápagos Legend

#### Quito 1 Night

Mercure Grand Hotel Alameda

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

**14** Breakfasts

**6** Lunches

**10** Dinners

### Activity Level

**1 2 3 4 5**

**Active**

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.*



### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-4 LIMA • SACRED VALLEY

##### Get a Taste of Authentic Peru

- Uncover Lima's historic past on a city tour, followed by a trip to a former home of a conquistador.
- Kick up your heels during a private salsa class.
- Learn centuries-old methods of creating traditional textiles at Awana Kancha and stroll through Pisac's local handicraft market.
- Visit the ruins of Ollantaytambo.
- Learn of the thriving culture of the Andean people during a farm-to-table lunch.

#### DAYS 5-7 AGUAS CALIENTES • CUZCO

##### Reach the Peak of Incan Culture

- Uncover the mysteries of Machu Picchu, the “Lost City of the Incas.”
- Witness an exclusive culinary demonstration and savour an eclectic tasting.
- Enjoy a morning of leisure at the foot of Machu Picchu, where you may choose an optional excursion to see the ruins again at sunrise, or wander through the local village for a taste of Andean culture.
- Immerse yourself in Peru's heart and soul during a special community dining experience.

**Y IT'S YOUR CHOICE** in the former Incan capital of Cuzco. Head out on a comprehensive city tour **OR** walk the artisan neighbourhood of San Blas.



## 1 EMBARK ON A NATURE CRUISE OF A LIFETIME

With wildlife that seems anything but wild and landscapes that are anything but tame, the Galápagos Islands aren't just a destination, it's an experience that will be forever seared into your memory. Accompanied by a naturalist guide for expert exploration, your 4-night cruise will be simply unforgettable.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS DAYS 10-13 IN THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS.



## 2 SPEND A LEISURELY MORNING AT THE FOOT OF RUINS

For some, visiting Machu Picchu once is not enough. This is why we give you a morning of leisure during your stay there. Whether you take an optional excursion to see the ruins at sunrise, or wander through the local markets of Aguas Calientes for a taste of Andean culture, you'll soak up every bit of this iconic site.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 6 IN MACHU PICCHU.



## 3 TRY YOUR HAND AT MAKING WORLD-RENOWNED CUISINE

Peru's cuisine consistently ranks high amongst the world's foodies. Discover why during an interactive cooking class. Hone your skills as you craft signature Peruvian starters like ceviche and pisco sours, then delight in more of the region's specialties over dinner.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 3 IN SACRED VALLEY.

### DAYS 8-9 QUITO

#### Check Out Quito's Colonial Charm

- Meet some of the children thriving at the Children International community centre, supported by the Collette Foundation.
- Tour the Presidential Palace.
- Stand at the "Middle of the World" at the Equatorial Line Monument and Museum.
- Take some free time to explore the city on your own.

### DAYS 10-13 GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

#### Become One with Nature in the Galápagos Islands

- Embark on a 4-night cruise in the company of a naturalist guide.
- Get an up-close look at the endangered tortoises at the Cerro Colorado Tortoise Reserve.
- Sail to Española Island in Gardner Bay aboard a panga.
- Swim and snorkel with manta rays and white-tipped sharks.

### DAYS 10-13 CONTINUED

- Hike the volcanic terrain of Suarez Point.
- Stand before giant tortoises, the stars of the Charles Darwin Research Station.
- Walk inside dormant lava tubes for a peek into how these primordial islands formed.
- Enjoy time on your own to explore Port Ayora.

### DAYS 14-15 QUITO

#### Celebrate Your Journey in Quito

- Take an evening city tour of colonial Quito.
- Feast in a historical restaurant and toast to your memorable journey.

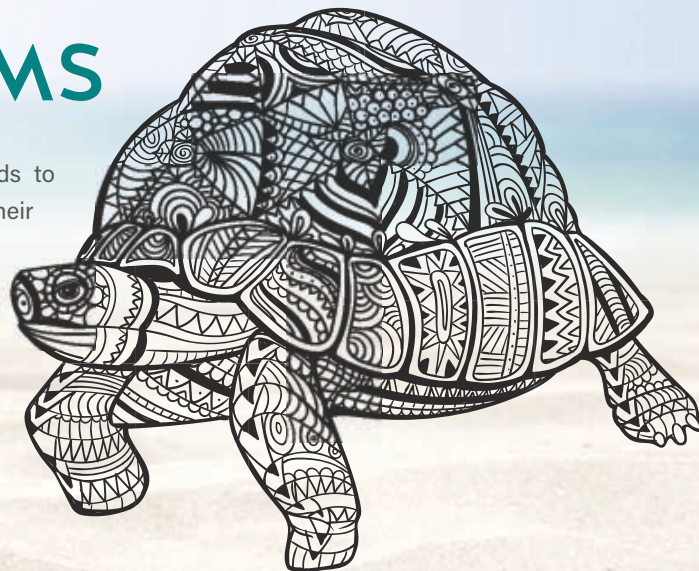
Visit [explorations.com/366](https://explorations.com/366) for complete tour details.

impact moment:

# CONSERVING UNIQUE ECOSYSTEMS

On the other side of the globe, in the Galápagos Islands, the approach to conservation takes a different path. On this far-flung archipelago in the Pacific, where 97.5% of the land is a national park, knowledge becomes power. **The Charles Darwin Research Station** serves as the nexus for the preservation, conservation, and education of this unique and delicate ecosystem. The Research Centre works towards

returning these isolated islands to their ecological prime with their giant tortoise breeding program. This fight to save an incredibly rare animal, found only in the Galapagos, continues to this day – funded by the eco-tourism of the islands themselves.



## OTAVALO

### 3-NIGHT POST-TOUR EXTENSION

See the beauty of Ecuador's natural world and shake hands with the welcoming people there as you explore this South American paradise.

**\$1470\* MEALS 8**

*\*Per person, double, land only*

### WHAT YOU'LL DO

- Take an unforgettable train ride on the Andes Mountain Train past towering volcanoes and through fertile valleys of fruit and sugar plantations.
- Stay in a historic, 300-year-old Andean hacienda. Or, choose a home-cooked dinner and homestay in the Karanki indigenous community of La Magdalena.
- Witness the extraordinary community tourism project at La Magdalena and discover how the Collette Foundation is helping to support its talented residents.
- Venture to Condor Park, a rescue centre for a variety of birds of prey, to learn about the protection of these birds and see a live falconry demonstration.
- Visit La Compañía Hacienda to walk among greenhouses full of some of the most magnificent varieties of roses.

**ADD THIS  
EXTENSION TO:  
MACHU PICCHU  
& THE GALÁPAGOS  
ISLANDS**





# RENDEZVOUS WITH *royalty*

SEEKING THE BIG CATS  
OF RANTHAMBORE



THE ROYAL BENGALI TIGERS WERE THE REASON **INDIA'S RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK** WAS CREATED, AND NOW THEY FLOURISH IN THESE PROTECTED LANDS.

The guides here speak about them as if they were myths, and know their names, the lands they claim, even their lineages. When your open-topped jeep rumbles down a dirt road hemmed in on all sides by thick jungle foliage, keep your eyes peeled and ears open to the expert naturalist guiding you. These are just some of the tigers you might meet out there, where they live and rule.

---

## MEET THE CATS

---

### Noor “The Heiress”

Noor, which means “glow” in Hindi, is widely known throughout the park for her beauty and grace. Noor has gained rapid notoriety because of her bold temperament, laying in the middle of the roads of Ranthambore without a care in the world, relaxing with her cubs. She loves to make herself known to visitors, as if she knows just how stunning she looks.

### Jhumroo “The Quiet King”

This massive tiger rules the lake region of the reserve with a quiet power. At a staggering nine feet long, Jhumroo has an awe-inspiring presence to anyone lucky enough to spot him. Surprisingly, Jhumroo is shy and prefers to wander deep in the thick foliage. It's a special sighting to see this gigantic creature, and something few visitors will ever forget.

### Dollar “The Fatherly Warrior”

One of the most ferocious tigers of Ranthambore has shown his softer side. Known as Dollar, he's now famous for two things—chasing jeeps full of visitors off of his territory and adopting orphaned twin tigresses. If you see Dollar, you might also see his two adopted daughters, Bina 1 and Bina 2, following close behind.

---

Meet these majestic animals on  
MYSTERIES OF INDIA pg. 58

Visit [explorations.com/292](https://explorations.com/292) for complete tour details.

---





Bengal Tiger

## MYSTERIES OF INDIA

Welcome to India—a perfect synthesis of nature, spirituality, and regal legacy. Breathe new life into the soul and resurrect the senses on this electrifying plunge into India's stunningly vibrant culture.

**STARTING AT \$3799\* DAYS 15 MEALS 25**

*\*Price based on September 26, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only. Rates do not include inter-tour air.*

### Where You'll Stay

#### Delhi 2 Nights

Hyatt Regency

#### Udaipur 2 Nights

Lalit Laxmi Vilas

#### Jaipur 2 Nights

ITC Rajputana

#### Ranthambore 2 Nights

Juna Mahal

#### Agra 2 Nights

ITC Mughal

#### Khajuraho 1 Night

Radisson Jass Hotel

#### Varanasi 2 Nights

Rivatas Hotel

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

13 Breakfasts

6 Lunches

6 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

Active

*See pg. 6 for details on our activity levels.*



## MYSTERIES OF INDIA

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*



#### 1 EXPERIENCE A SUNRISE LIKE NO OTHER – AT THE TAJ MAHAL

An icon among icons, the Taj Mahal cannot be missed. Find yourself in awe as you stand before this marbled tribute to true love bathed in the early morning light. As the sun rises, the colours seem to dance on the white marble façade and shimmer along its reflective pool.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 11 IN AGRA.**

#### 2 IGNITE YOUR SPIRIT IN INDIA'S HOLIEST CITY

Each evening, just after dusk, the holy Dasaswamedh Ghat on the banks of the River Ganges becomes bathed in a choreographed spectacle of fire, fragrant incense, and rhythmic chants. Witness this devotional ritual as Hindu priests provide offerings to the Goddess Ganga.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 13 IN VARANASI.**



### 3 FILL UP ON LOCAL FLAVOUR IN OLD DELHI

Meet up with a local guide, jump in a rickshaw, and head through Old Delhi's narrow streets and corridors for a delicious sampling of the city's incredible food scene. Bring your appetite and sense of adventure—we'll handle the rest.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 3 IN DELHI.



#### WHAT YOU'LL DO

##### DAYS 1-3 DELHI

#### Feel Delhi's Dynamic Pulse

- Stimulate the senses on guided explorations of modern New Delhi and historic Old Delhi.
- Meet up with a local guide, jump in a rickshaw, and indulge in a delicious sampling of the Old Delhi's incredible food scene.

##### DAYS 4-5 UDAIPUR

#### Behold the Romance of Udaipur

- Y In Udaipur, **IT'S YOUR CHOICE!** Join a local expert to learn the basic practices of yoga **OR** embark on a leisurely walking tour as the city's streets come to life.
- See this sparkling city from a new perspective on an evening cruise.
- Look over Lake Pichola from your luxurious hotel—a historic palace.

##### DAYS 6-7 JAIPUR

#### Connect with Culture in Jaipur

- Join a local host where you'll shop for fresh ingredients together, then return to her home to discover the secrets (and joys) of preparing an authentic Indian meal.
- Ascend Amber Fort in a vintage jeep, and soak in vibrant views of the "Pink City."
- Enjoy lunch at a local school where children are thriving in a midday program supported by the Collette Foundation.

##### DAYS 8-9 RANTHAMBORE

#### Walk on the Wild Side in Ranthambore

- Meet with a naturalist, then get an up-close glimpse of Ranthambore National Park's most popular residents—Bengal tigers—and more wildlife on two game drives through the park.
- See first-hand how the Ranthambore School of Art is improving lives through art.

##### DAYS 10-12 AGRA • KHAJURAHO

#### Step Back in Time in Agra and Khajuraho

- Lunch at Sheroes Hangout. See page 58 to learn more about this amazing organization.
- The can't-miss visit to the Taj Mahal. Feel the full power of this monument's romantic spirit with a sunrise visit.
- Make passage to Khajuraho on an exciting train journey, then explore the stunning UNESCO-designated sculptures of Khajuraho and the Chandel Temple complex.

##### DAYS 13-15 VARANASI

#### Be Moved by the Holy City of Varanasi

- Sail along the Ganges and drink in the vibrant colours and beautiful balance between life and death in India's holiest city.
- Witness the powerful Ganga Aarti ceremony held on the banks of the River Ganges.
- Look inward and reflect on yourself and your journey as an expert teacher guides you through a meditative yoga session.
- Embark on an enlightening journey of mind, body and spirit during a visit to the Buddhist holy site of Sarnath, where Siddhartha Gautama, gave his first sermon in 6th century B.C.

Visit [explorations.com/292](https://explorations.com/292) for complete tour details.



impact moment:

## Seeing Beauty Inside & Out

In India, **Sheroes Café** is home to a powerful message – you cannot break our spirits, no matter how hard you try. The women who work and run Sheroes (*a portmanteau of “She” and “Heroes”*) are all survivors of heinous acid attacks, and with one clear voice they tell the world that they will not be cowed by violence. Instead, they serve up teas, coffee, and other delicious treats in a positive and welcoming café environment. They continue their work with the Stop Acid Attacks campaign, to show that they stand in solidarity with every brave acid attack survivor.



ADD THIS  
EXTENSION TO:  
MYSTERIES  
OF INDIA

### DUBAI

#### 3-NIGHT PRE-TOUR EXTENSION

Discover this ultra-modern city before exploring the ancient, alluring charm of the desert.

**\$880\*** MEALS 4

*\*Per person, double, land only*

#### WHAT YOU'LL DO

- Enjoy magnificent views of the world famous Burj Al Arab hotel.
- View the Al Bastakia old wind-towered houses built by wealthy merchants.
- Travel by abra, a traditional water taxi.
- Embark on an exciting desert safari and ride aboard luxury 4x4 vehicles over rolling sand dunes through the Dubai desert.
- Arrive at a desert campsite where a feast awaits you and enjoy a belly dancing performance.



# BANGKOK

## 3-NIGHT POST-TOUR EXTENSION

Step into the swirling excitement of Bangkok, a bustling city that blends its cosmopolitan sophistication with strong ties to history and tradition.

**\$895\* MEALS 4**

*\*Per person, double, land only*

### WHAT YOU'LL DO

- Board a long-tail boat and explore Bangkok's network of canals, learning about daily life along the waterways. Stop at the iconic Wat Arun, the Temple of the Dawn.
- Visit the Golden Buddha and Wat Po, temple of the Reclining Buddha. Explore the grounds of the Grand Palace.
- Stop at Wat Phra Kaew, home of Thailand's most sacred temple.
- Visit the Damnoen Saduak floating market.

**ADD THIS  
EXTENSION TO:**  
TASTE OF VIETNAM  
or KINGDOMS OF  
SOUTHEAST ASIA





A close-up photograph of a person's face and hands as they eat a bowl of pho. The person is smiling and holding a pair of chopsticks in their right hand, lifting a portion of the white rice noodles from a white bowl. In their left hand, they hold a white ceramic spoon. The bowl of pho is filled with a rich, orange-brown broth, topped with sliced meat, fresh green herbs, and a sprinkle of red chili flakes. The bowl sits on a wooden table. In the foreground, there is a small white dish containing sliced green limes. The background is softly blurred, showing an indoor setting with warm lighting.

# TOP 5

## STREET FOODS TO TRY IN

### *vietnam*

1

#### PHO

##### *Noodle Soup*

Pho has achieved notoriety around the world, and that comes as no surprise if you've tried it. Served with succulent chunks of brisket and pork and mixed with some raw veggies, this simple, hearty dish is true Vietnamese comfort food. For some extra spicy flavour, add some chili peppers.





2

## BANH MI

### *Vietnamese Sandwich*

French cuisine is often considered to be the pinnacle of food, but leave it to Vietnam to take a French staple and make it even better. When Vietnam was under French colonial rule, they made their own version of the baguette with wheat and rice flour, and the Bahn Mi was born. The crispy roll is filled with roast pork, pickled veggies, and soy sauce.



3

## BUN CHA

### *Vietnamese BBQ*

Follow the scent of barbequing meat in any urban area, and you're almost sure to find *bun cha*. Grilled pork patties and sliced marinated pork belly are served up with a bowl of broth, green veggies, and rice noodles. Sometimes, you'll even get a side of fried crab spring rolls. It's a staple of the lunchtime rush for a reason.



4

## BANH TET

### *Banana & Sticky Rice Dessert*

Banh Tet is the perfect sweet treat after a long day of exploring. Banana and sweet red beans are rolled up into a banana leaf with sticky rice, and thrown onto a grill. Once they pull it off, it's cut into slices and dished out with a side of coconut milk custard, and dusted with sesame seeds. After all those savoury meats, you'll need something sweet for dessert.



5

## VIETNAMESE COFFEE

### *Iced Coffee with a Twist*

The Vietnamese people love to drink coffee. Their preferred method of brewing a cup is the "drip" method, removing most of the bitterness from the coffee and leaving it smoother and sweeter than we're used to. Add in some condensed milk, pour it over ice, and you've got a delicious drink that'll keep you energized all day.

Get a taste of these and more on  
**TASTE OF VIETNAM** pg. 64 • **KINGDOMS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA** pg. 66

Visit [explorations.com/597](https://explorations.com/597) • [explorations.com/425](https://explorations.com/425) for complete tour details.



Vietnamese Boatsman

## TASTE OF VIETNAM

From Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City and the Mekong Delta, Vietnam is a fascinating mosaic of culture, indescribable beauty, and complex history. Fully immerse yourself and explore the very best of Vietnam.

**STARTING AT \$3099\* DAYS 14 MEALS 21**

\*Price based on October 11, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.

Rates do not include inter-tour air.

### Where You'll Stay

#### Hanoi 3 Nights

La Siesta Trendy Hotel or  
Silk Path Hotel

#### Halong Bay 1 Night

Bhaya Classic

#### Hue 2 Nights

Pilgrimage Village

#### Hoi An 3 Nights

Hotel Royal Hoi An

#### Ho Chi Minh City 3 Nights

Hotel Des Arts Saigon MGallery

On some dates alternate  
hotels may be used.

### Included Meals

12 Breakfasts

4 Lunches

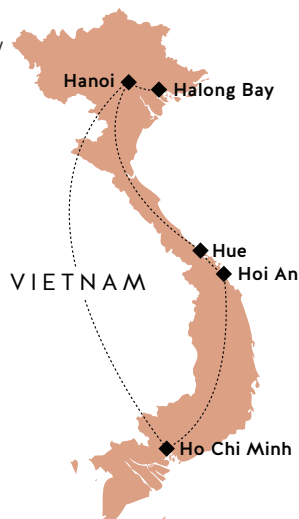
5 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

**Moderate  
Physical Activity**

See pg. 6 for details  
on our activity levels.



## TASTE OF VIETNAM

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*

#### 1 FLOAT AMONGST LIMESTONE GIANTS

On a two-day cruise of Halong Bay, you'll sail scenic waters dotted with thousands of limestone islands. Feast on fresh seafood, trek through limestone caves, and be peacefully lulled to sleep by lapping water—all aboard a luxury junk boat. You'll also choose how you'll explore a floating fishing village: by traditional row boat, or from the seat of a kayak.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAYS 5 & 6 IN HALONG BAY.**

#### 2 IMPACT MOMENT: LANTERN WORKSHOP AT REACHING OUT VIETNAM

Celebrate the work of a talented team of disabled artisans during an immersive lantern-making experience. Amongst new friends, work together to create these colourful beacons of prosperity, in a place that is a beacon of hope for the community.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 9 IN HOI AN.**



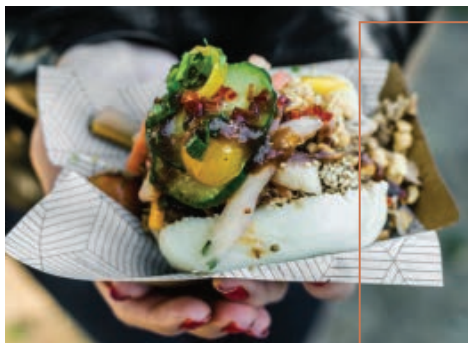
### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-5 HANOI • HALONG BAY

#### Feel the Hum of Hanoi, the Peace of Halong Bay

- Tour the Hoa Lo Prison, the Vietnam National Art Museum, and stand in awe of French-inspired architecture.
- Enjoy a traditional water puppet show that welcomes you to Vietnam with its incredible display of artistry and folklore.
- Take a step back in time on a guided walking tour through Hanoi's Old Quarter.
- Sample some of Vietnam's most famous dishes on a walking street food tour.
- Travel to Halong Bay, where you'll cruise the emerald waters and spend the night aboard a luxury junk boat.





### 3 GRAZE YOUR WAY AROUND HANOI

Bánh mì to pho, Vietnamese food is incredible. After you've worked up an appetite walking the Old Quarter with your guide, keep walking for a street food tour that serves up some of Vietnam's most famous dishes. Finish your delicious tour at a hidden rooftop café with gorgeous views of Hoàn Kiếm Lake.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 4 IN HANOI.

#### DAYS 6-7 HUE

##### Wander Through the Past in Imperial Hue

- Cruise the famous Perfume River in a traditional dragon boat and watch Hue's Imperial past unfold.
- Find yourself inside the most elaborate royal tomb in Vietnam, the mausoleum of Emperor Tu Duc.
- Get a thrilling perspective of Hue with a tour in a traditional Cyclo.

#### DAYS 8-10 HOI AN

##### Savour Hoi An's Captivating Flavour

- Pause for a glimpse of the quaint fishing village, Lang Co, as you travel the scenic Hai Van Pass.
- Take a river basket boat to an immersive cooking class. You'll learn to catch fish and crabs in the river, grind rice into flour and use the ingredients from your earlier market stop to craft four classic Vietnamese dishes.
- Celebrate the work of a talented team of artisans during an immersive lantern-making experience.
- Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore the magic of Hoi An.

#### DAYS 11-14 HO CHI MINH CITY

##### Experience Ho Chi Minh City's Dynamic Energy

- Tour the energetic urban capital of Ho Chi Minh City, concluding with a stop at the Old Market to explore treasures from local vendors.
- Cruise the famous Mekong Delta by sampan. Stop in a local home to discover traditional ways of life on the river, savour lunch in a lush garden, and learn the art of making coconut candy in a local resident's home.
- Embark on a journey to the Cu Chi Tunnels.

Visit [explorations.com/597](https://explorations.com/597) for complete tour details.





Angkor Wat

## KINGDOMS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

Enrich yourself in the distinctive culture, history, and cuisine of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. From the kinetic spark of ancient cities to lush jungles that harbour vast complexes of sandstone temples, Southeast Asia is an adventure for the senses.

**STARTING AT \$2999\* DAYS 14 MEALS 20**

*\*Price based on May 11, 2019 departure. Per person, double, land only.*

*Rates do not include inter-tour air.*

### Where You'll Stay

#### Hanoi 3 Nights

Silk Path Hotel

#### Luang Prabang 3 Nights

Sanctuary Hotel or  
La Parasol Blanc

#### Siem Reap 3 Nights

Memoire D'Angkor

#### Ho Chi Minh City 3 Nights

Grand Hotel Saigon

*On some dates alternate  
hotels may be used.*

### Included Meals

12 Breakfasts

4 Lunches

4 Dinners

### Activity Level

1 2 3 4 5

**Active**

*See pg. 6 for details  
on our activity levels.*



## KINGDOMS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

### 3 EXPERIENCES *beyond expectation*



### 3 SEE WHERE YOUNG LOCALS LEARN TRADITIONAL ARTS

Discover Les Artisan d'Angkor Workshop, a development project that teaches the Kmer arts to young adults. See how Cambodia is using these heritage artisan skills – like wood carving and ceramics – to provide a creative source of industry for future generations.

**>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 10 IN SIEM REAP.**



## 1 MINGLE WITH THE MONKS OF A LOCAL MONASTERY

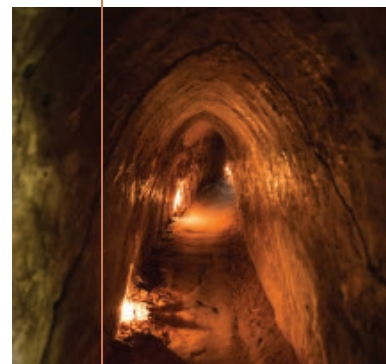
Hop aboard a Tuk Tuk and head to a local monastery where you'll meet the monks who reside there. Then, participate in a private blessing ceremony delivered by one of the monks.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 6 IN LUANG PRABANG.

## 2 WHERE HISTORY LIES BENEATH

Explore the Cu Chi Tunnels, a maze of underground passageways used as hideouts by the Viet Cong during the Vietnam War. Learn how these underground routes were used by soldiers to house troops, transport supplies and mount surprise attacks.

>> EXPERIENCE THIS ON DAY 13 IN HO CHI MINH CITY.



### WHAT YOU'LL DO

#### DAYS 1-4 HANOI

##### Encounter Hanoi's Imperial History and Tranquil Lake Ham Kiem

- Discover Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum, One Pillar Pagoda, and the Temple of Literature.
- A traditional water puppet show welcomes you to Vietnam with its incredible display of artistry and folklore.
- Take a step back into time on a guided walking tour through Hanoi's Old Quarter.
- Sample some of Vietnam's most famous dishes on a walking street food tour.

**Y IT'S YOUR CHOICE:** Venture to the centuries-old temples of Bich Dong Pagoda on a leisurely bike ride **OR** travel by coach to the Thung Nham Bird Garden, a stunning sanctuary boasting more than 40 species of birds.

#### DAYS 5-7 LUANG PRABANG

##### Be Moved by Beauty and Faith in Laos

- See the Buddhist temple Wat Xieng and its Tree of Life mosaic that make this temple one of Luang Prabang's most beautiful.
- Be introduced to Lao cuisine at a home-hosted dinner in a traditional Laotian village.
- Enter the heart of spiritual Laos via local Tuk Tuk and take part in an exclusive private blessing ceremony, delivered by one of the monks.
- Visit the Bear Rescue Centre and learn how its working to conserve the black bear population in northern Laos.
- Encounter beautiful scenery in the refreshing cascade of Kuang Si falls.

#### DAYS 8-10 SIEM REAP

##### Explore Hallowed Ground in Cambodia

- Explore incredible Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious structure.
- Be greeted by many stone "faces" smiling upon you at Angkor Thom.
- Visit Les Artisan d'Angkor Workshop, a development project that teaches the Kmer arts to young adults.
- Savour dinner at a local restaurant while enjoying a traditional Apsara show.

#### DAYS 11-14 HO CHI MINH CITY

##### Dive in to Rich Nature and History

- Cruise the famous Mekong Delta River, rich with natural and cultural wonders.
- Explore the Cu Chi Tunnels, a maze of underground passageways used as hideouts by the Viet Cong during the Vietnam War.
- Discover the Post Office, Notre Dame Cathedral, and the Reunification Palace.

Visit [explorations.com/425](https://explorations.com/425) for complete tour details.











# impact moments

---

## GIVING BACK to a world that gives us so much

Travel should make a positive impact, both on you and the world. That is why Explorations, a proud member of the Collette family, designs tours with powerful **impact moments**. From connecting with indigenous cultures and learning how to preserve their ways of life, to helping restore and protect the environment, or visiting a non-profit organization with a powerful cause, **impact moments** are how we can help make tomorrow better for us all.

Social responsibility takes many forms across the world, and we are adding more **impact moments** to our tours all the time. Driven by four key pillars – Community, People, Travel and Planet – we work every day to care for the places we live, work, and travel.

Lessen your carbon footprint on **Switzerland: Hidden Trails & Majestic Peaks**.  
*See this Impact Moment on pg. 29*  
*Tour information on pg. 28*

Help replenish the landscape of **Kenya** with a “seed ball”.  
*See this Impact Moment on pg. 49*  
*Tour information on pg. 44*

Discover how you can make lunch more meaningful at **Sheroes Café**.  
*See this Impact Moment on pg. 60*  
*Tour information on pg. 58*

See how the **Charles Darwin Research Center** is restoring the Galápagos Islands to their ecological prime.  
*See this Impact Moment on pg. 56*  
*Tour information on pg. 54*

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Accommodations

### What is the difference between a twin room and a double room?

In certain countries, hotel rooms tend to be smaller than Canadian standard accommodations. A double room is designed to accommodate two people, but may not have two separate beds. A twin bedded room has two separate beds of any size, and is the type most commonly utilized.

**What size is a triple room?** A triple room is the same size as a twin bedded room and beds will accommodate three people, but we cannot guarantee that there will be three separate beds. If there are only two beds, a rollaway may be requested but cannot be guaranteed due to size of room and fire codes. Please inquire at time of reservation.

**Can my children travel on tour?** Children over the age of 5 may travel on a Collette tour accompanied by an adult. Child land rates are valid for ages 5-12, sharing a room with two full-paying adults.

**Are single and triple rooms always available?** On many tours, triple and single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. Be advised that single rooms are often smaller.

**When can I check into my hotel?** Due to early arrival times into some cities, rooms may not always be available for immediate check-in.

## Air

**Can Collette book our airline reservations?** Collette is happy to assist you in accommodating your flight needs. Due to tour scheduling and limited availability, you are strongly encouraged to take advantage of Collette's air packages. We are not responsible for air arrangements you have made on your own. On occasion, it is necessary to change tour dates. In this case, we can only protect air reservations booked through Collette. For all air reservations, it is strongly recommended to reconfirm flights before departure, in the event that the airline has an unexpected schedule change. We cannot assume responsibility for schedule changes, routings or flight cancellations involving the airlines. Not all airlines offer pre-assigned seats. Some charge a fee for seats which will be at the guests' expense. Where pre-assigned seats are not offered, the guests must contact the airline directly to arrange seat assignments.

## Attractions & Sightseeing

**Are attractions always available?** Access to some attractions or Collette Foundation sites may be affected by the observance of holidays, weather conditions or other circumstances. As a result, the days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour. Boat rides are weather permitting. Some attractions may not be available during the "off-season" months. When attractions are unavailable, other similar attractions will be substituted. Wildlife sightings are not guaranteed.

**Is there a lot of walking on tour?** We pride ourselves on bringing travellers the very best experiences a destination offers. Our itineraries include many activities and may consist of walking on uneven terrain or significant walking at times. Some of the most unique sightseeing can mean accessing locations that restrict motorcoaches, especially in historic areas. Some hotels/lodges in remote locations may not have elevators. For your comfort, we recommend bringing walking shoes. Review each tour's "Tour Activity Level" and "Tour Pacing" (pg 71) for details.

**Can you tell me more about the safaris?** In order to most fully experience the wildlife, you will be travelling by custom-built safari vehicle which requires climbing in and out frequently and sometimes travels on bumpy roads. To experience Africa fully, we recommend that all travellers be in reasonably good health and prepare properly.

**How can I plan for shore landings?** Special clothing is required for the shore landings (Antarctica, Galapagos); please refer to your predeparture documents for important details.

**Are all theatre performances suitable for children?** Some theatre performances may be unsuitable for children – consult your tour manager.

## Documentation

**Do I need a passport?** Government-issued identification is required for all air travel. A valid passport is required for all trips outside Canada. All passengers should check with the appropriate foreign consulate for entry and validity requirements. We recommend that your passport has seven months validity, and at least 3 blank pages. Passports and visas are the responsibility of each client.

In South Africa, children are required to have a passport as well as additional documentation to travel with you into and out of the country. Please consult the South African Embassy for the current specific requirements related to your travel dates.

## Extending Your Stay

**Can I extend my tour to see more of a region?** Yes! You may enhance your tour by purchasing either an extension or pre/post hotel stays, offered on select tours. Extensions may be "hosted" rather than escorted. When hosted, passengers will be greeted upon arrival by a local tour manager who will provide all included services and be available on-call during the duration of the extension. A minimum number of passengers may be required to operate some extensions. Extensions not purchased at time of deposit are subject to availability and applicable charges at time of request.

Collette also offers pre and post hotel nights before and/or after a tour for you to explore the destination independently. Should you purchase additional nights, please be advised that your Tour Manager will not be available during this time.

## Extras

**What is not included in the tour price?** The land price does not include air travel, airline fees, airport or departure taxes, transfers, visas, customary end-of-trip gratuities for your tour manager, driver, local guides, hotel housekeepers, cruise ship waitstaff, and any incidental charges.

## Late Bookings

**Do you accept late bookings?** Tour sales normally close 7 days prior to departure. All late bookings are on request and must be guaranteed with a credit card if within 60 days of departure date.

## On-Tour Experience

**Where do I meet my Tour Manager?** Your tour will begin at your first hotel. The Tour Manager will make contact with you at the hotel and will provide details relating to your tour. The hotel's address and phone number will be included in your documents.



**Can I prepurchase optional excursions/activities?** Yes, the majority of optional excursions and activities are available for advance purchase for applicable tours provided that you make your options purchase prior to 15 days of the tour departure. Collette makes it convenient to reserve presold options by visiting our website for a full listing of activities and excursions or when your reservation is made with our reservations staff. In addition, there are benefits to prepurchasing options including a price guarantee once your tour is paid in full. So, while the cost of an optional activity may change from the time you book your tour, once payment is received in full, your preselected options are guaranteed by Collette at their original price. Although you can still purchase options while on tour, reserving them ahead of time ensures you a spot in the event that the activity sells out. Collette will provide a refund if you cancel a presold option prior to tour departure. Any presold options cancelled while on tour are nonrefundable.

## Revisions/Changes

**Would my tour date ever be changed?** While it is unlikely, Collette does reserve the right to cancel a tour prior to departure. Should this happen, Collette will make every effort to put you on another departure date. If an alternate cannot be found, a full refund will be made. Air booked through Collette will be protected. We cannot be held responsible for penalties incurred if you have secured your own air.

**Can I make changes to my reservation?** Should you decide to change your reservation after initial booking, a handling fee of \$25 per transaction will be charged. A change of tour date, tour itinerary or passenger name, within the guidelines of the cancellation policy, will be treated as a cancellation and regular cancellation fees may apply.

Revisions to air tickets are subject to the rules and regulations of the airline. See our Cancellation Policy for more details.

## Tour Pacing

**How can I be best prepared for the pacing and physical requirements on a Collette tour?** Tour pacing varies by itinerary, and each destination's sightseeing and activities are unique. Pacing is subject to personal interpretation. At Collette, we do include the best a destination has to offer, enhancing your overall tour experience. For overnight pacing of a tour, please refer to the "Where You'll Stay" section on each tour page. This describes the number of nights you will stay in each hotel during your tour. Please visit our website for full day by day itinerary information.

The Tour Activity Level Ranking is featured on each tour itinerary. The definition of each activity level is listed here. If you have additional questions regarding a specific tour, please inquire at time of reservation. For your comfort, we recommend packing comfortable walking shoes so you can fully enjoy every aspect of your tour.

**Level 1:** At a very leisurely pace, this tour involves minimal physical activity, such as climbing some stairs, boarding a motorcoach, and walking from the hotel reception area to hotel rooms and dining areas.

**Level 2:** This tour requires average physical activity. You should be in good health, able to climb stairs and walk reasonable distances, possibly over uneven ground and cobblestoned streets.

**Level 3:** This tour includes moderate physical activity. The itinerary blends some longer days with shorter days and more leisure time. Walking tours,

as well as walking slightly longer distances, up stairs, or on uneven walking surfaces should be expected.

**Level 4:** To truly experience the program and destination, you need to be able to participate in physical activities such as longer walking tours, walking over uneven terrain, climbing stairs and periods of standing. Some of the touring days may be longer, with select included activities occurring later in the evening.

**Level 5:** This tour is very active, requiring participants to be physically fit to fully enjoy all the experiences. This itinerary has more strenuous activities which may include such things as: extensive walking tours, transfers over uneven and dusty terrain, high altitudes, early morning departures, late night activities, or extreme temperatures. All conditions do not apply to all days, so please read the itinerary carefully and speak to one of our travel counsellors to determine if this tour is right for you. We recommend this program to individuals who are physically fit. Unfortunately, this tour is not appropriate for individuals who use either walkers or wheelchairs. If this trip is not ideally suited for you, our travel counsellors can help determine the perfect trip for you.

## Transfers

**Are airport and hotel transfers available?** Roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers are provided for all passengers who purchase airfare through Collette. These transfers also apply to pre- and post-night stays purchased through Collette. Passengers who do not purchase airfare through Collette can purchase transfers (for the first and last day of the tour) at an additional cost of \$100 per person, roundtrip. Some restrictions may apply. All transfers leave at prescheduled times.

**What is Roundtrip Home to Airport Sedan Service?** It's your ticket to and from the airport. This service is available for all air-inclusive tour bookings. This personalized service is included when you reside within a 100 km radius of the airport.\* Please confirm at time of booking. Not valid on group travel.

\*One transfer per room booking. Additional stops are not permitted on route. Other restrictions apply; call for details.

## The Collette Passport Club

**What is the Collette Passport Club?** Formerly known as Travel Loyalty by Collette (TLC), Collette has relaunched a new, more inclusive loyalty program called the Collette Passport Club. For guests who are already enrolled in TLC no action is required. New guests who completed a trip that departed on or after 9/4/17 will automatically be enrolled in the program. Collette Passport Club members receive a \$150 travel credit for each trip they take\* along with various other benefits.

\*Full credit is valid for your next tour when travel is completed within 12 months of the original trip. \$100 of the credit remains valid for travel within 13-24 months. Credit expires 24 months after the original trip.



# the choice is yours.

## THREE GREAT AIR OPTIONS

Enjoy the benefits of air-inclusive bookings. Allow us to be your liaison with the airlines and to handle all the details. Choose Flex Airfare, Instant Purchase, or Elite Airfare.

	Flex Airfare	Instant Purchase Airfare <sup>3</sup>	Elite Airfare <sup>4</sup>
Receive roundtrip home to airport sedan service – your journey begins at home! <sup>1</sup>	●	●	●
Roundtrip airport to hotel transfers included <sup>2</sup>	●	●	●
Dedicated Concierge Service			●
Lounge Passes <sup>5</sup>			●
Express Check-In <sup>5</sup>			●
Eligible for Collette's Travel Protection Plan	●	● part b	● part b
Benefit from our flexible change and refund policies	●		●
Deposit now, pay the balance later	●		●
Eliminates future surcharges by locking in price		●	
All the perks of upgraded air (more leg room, comfort, and space)			●



## TREAT YOURSELF & enjoy

Whether you select **Elite, Flex, or Instant Purchase Airfare**, you'll enjoy the ease and security that comes with reserving your air with Collette.

LAN  TAM  
LATAM AIRLINES GROUP

UNITED 

American Airlines 

TURKISH AIRLINES 

 CATHAY PACIFIC

Aer Lingus 

BRITISH AIRWAYS 

Avianca Airlines  
CONECTANDO MUNDOS

 SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS  
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

 Lufthansa

Austrian 

brussels airlines

SWISS 

AIR CANADA 

kulula.com

WESTJET 

 EGYPTAIR


TAP  TAPPORUGAL  
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

Hello Tomorrow

Emirates 

ICELANDAIR  WWW.ICELANDAIR.COM

DELTA KLM AIRFRANCE    

<sup>1</sup>This roundtrip home to airport sedan service is included when you reside within a 100 km radius of most major Canadian gateways and purchase an air-inclusive tour. One transfer per room booking. Additional stops not permitted on route. Not valid on group travel. <sup>2</sup>These transfers are available on the first and last day of the actual tour dates and when you are traveling on select flights. Land only clients may purchase transfers on the first and last day of the actual tour dates for an additional cost of \$100 per person, roundtrip (some restrictions may apply). <sup>3</sup>Instant Purchase Airfare is offered on select dates; consult your booking agent. <sup>4</sup>Elite Airfare status is only included with the purchase of a First Class, Business Class or Premium Economy ticket with either Flex or Instant Purchase air; only on the international/long-haul portion of your journey. <sup>5</sup>Lounge Passes & Express Check-In are based on airline and airport availability for Business Class passengers only; Premium Economy tickets do not qualify. Lounge passes are not available for travel from North America to destinations within North America or the Caribbean.  Not applicable with Instant Purchase Airfare.



# Reservation Information

## Land Rates

Land rates are on a per person, double occupancy unless otherwise noted. Availability of departures at the prices noted in the brochure is limited. Government taxes and fees are additional. For current prices, please see our website at [www.gocollette.com](http://www.gocollette.com). Land rates are guaranteed at the time that the deposit is received by Collette.

The land price includes those land based items delineated as included in the package itinerary and does not include any other items such as air travel, airline fees, airport or departure taxes, transfers, visas, customary end of trip gratuities for your tour manager, driver, local guides, hotel housekeepers, cruise ship waitstaff, and any incidental charges.

## Payments

### Land Package Deposit

- A \$250 non-refundable deposit is due with your land only reservation.
- For Antarctica, Cruises only and Oberammergau reservations, a non-refundable \$500 deposit is required. An additional \$1000 is due 180 days prior to departure for Antarctica. An additional \$1500 is due one year prior to departure for Oberammergau.

### Air Inclusive Package Deposit

- A \$500 non-refundable deposit is due with your air inclusive reservation.
- For Antarctica, Cruise and Oberammergau air inclusive reservations, a non-refundable \$750 deposit is required. An additional \$1000 is due 180 days prior to departure for Antarctica. An additional \$1500 is due one year prior to departure for Oberammergau.

### Instant Purchase Air

- If you have selected Instant Purchase Air, the deposit required is the full cost of the airfare plus the land deposit noted above, all of which is non-refundable

Should you decide to purchase our Travel Protection Plan, you must do so at the time of booking. Payment of this Plan includes the Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver which protects you from penalties in the event you have to cancel your entire tour package for any reason up to the day prior to departure (see Part A for more details). If you originally purchased nonrefundable airline tickets, Part B of the Travel Protection Plan may provide a refund for the airline tickets, taxes, or fees in the event of a cancellation for a covered reason (see Part B for more details).

### Final Payment

Unless otherwise noted, the balance is due 60 days before departure on all tours, except cruises, Antarctica, Galapagos and Oberammergau. The balance is due 120 days before departure for cruises, Antarctica, Galapagos and Oberammergau. Payment may be made by charging to clients' Mastercard, Visa, American Express, or Discover (card imprint and signature required) or by sending a check or money order. All land rates are guaranteed upon deposit. Payment may also be made online at <https://reservations.gocollette.com/payment.aspx?co=CAD>

### TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS PLEASE CONTACT:

Collette: 1-800-468-5955  
[reservations@gocollette.com](mailto:reservations@gocollette.com)

### PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO:

Collette, 40 Queen Street South, Mississauga, ON L5M 1K3  
Attn: Accounts Receivable

## Revision Fees

Upon receipt of your itinerary, you must review it and report any discrepancies to Collette immediately in order to avoid any supplier incurred penalties. A handling fee of \$25.00 per transaction will be assessed for any change or revision made to a reservation. A change of departure date within 11 months of the departure date will be treated as a cancellation, and cancellation charges will apply.

### Cancellation Charges

Cancellations of confirmed bookings and transfers to new travel dates will result in penalties and fees assessed by travel suppliers. If you need to transfer or cancel for any reason prior to tour departure, the following cancellation fees will be assessed on your land or cruise product. Air is 100% nonrefundable once paid in full. If canceled prior to being paid in full, the following cancellation fees will also apply to air.

- More than 60 days prior to departure: a nonrefundable deposit will be retained.
- 60 - 16 days prior to departure: 30% of total price
- 15 - 1 day prior to departure: 50% of total price
- Day of departure and after: 100% of total price

### Exceptions:

#### Ocean Cruises:

- More than 90 days prior to departure, the nonrefundable deposit will be retained.
- 90 - 61 days prior to departure: 35% of total price

- 60 - 31 days prior to departure: 60% of total price
- 30 - 0 days prior to departure: 100% of total price

#### River Cruises: including Europe, Russia, Egypt and China

- More than 90 days prior to departure, the nonrefundable deposit will be retained.
- 90 - 61 days prior to departure: 50% of total price
- 60 - 31 days prior to departure: 85% of total price
- 30 - 0 days prior to departure: 100% of total price

#### Galapagos & Antarctica:

- More than 120 days prior to departure: nonrefundable deposits will be retained.
- 120 - 90 days prior to departure: 60% of total price
- 89 - 0 days prior to departure: 100% of total price

#### Oberammergau

- More than 120 days prior to departure – a nonrefundable deposit will be retained.
- 120 - 91 days prior to departure - 75% of total price
- 90 days - 0 days prior to departure - 100% of total price

\* Instant Purchase air and its associated taxes, fees and surcharges are 100% nonrefundable at time of reservation.

Upon cancellation of transportation or travel services where you, the client, are not at fault and have not cancelled in violation of these terms and conditions, you will be refunded 100%.

## Airfare

For your convenience, we offer airfare for purchase with all tour packages. If you purchase an air-inclusive program, your airfare will be quoted exclusive of all fuel, taxes and fees. Your rates are subject to change until paid in full. Seats are limited and may not be available on every flight or departure date.

Instant Purchase nonrefundable airfare includes roundtrip airport/hotel transfers (excluding pre- or post-days and extensions). If you have selected Instant Purchase nonrefundable air, you are required to pay the full air cost in addition to the \$250 deposit at time of booking (all of which is nonrefundable). If you purchase the Travel Protection Plan, the Instant Purchase nonrefundable airfare may be covered, if you cancel your trip for a covered reason (see Part B for more details). Tickets will be issued immediately and once issued are nonrefundable; you may only be changed for a fee up to \$300 plus any difference in airfare for travel in the following 12 months; specific fees and policies may vary by airline. These tickets include an administration fee and roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers, of which both hold no airline reissue value. Once issued, there can be no fluctuation in price due to an increase in government taxes or in airline fuel surcharges. Therefore, any such fees or airport-to-hotel transfers are not refundable under any circumstances.

### Aircraft Cabin Disinsection Disclaimer

Some countries may require aircraft cabin insecticide treatment for inbound foreign flights. Information about aircraft disinsection requirements and a list of countries requiring such disinsection are available online at <http://www.dot.gov/office-policy/aviation-policy/aircraft-disinsection-requirements>.

## Currency

Unless specified otherwise, all statements of or references to dollar amounts in these terms and conditions are to lawful money of Canada.

### Proof of Citizenship: Passports & Visas

Documentation is required by foreign governments for all trips outside Canada. Clients/passengers should check with the appropriate foreign consulate/embassy for entry requirements, including whether you need to obtain a visa before entering your destination country and, if you do need to get a visa, its cost and timing. Please remember that the possession of valid passports and necessary visas are the responsibility of each client/passenger. If you would like assistance in ensuring you have the proper visa(s) for your trip outside of Canada, we would be happy to refer you to a company that can assist you.

### Travel Conditions

There may be different living standards and practices and different standards and conditions with respect to the provision of services and accommodations outside of Canada.

### Door to Door Transfer Service

Return door to door transfers are offered up to 100 kilometers from most major Canadian gateways with the purchase of an air-inclusive tour.

### Travellers Needing Special Assistance

You must report any disability requiring special attention to Collette at the time your booking is made. \* Collette will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable of and totally responsible for providing the assistance.

Neither Collette nor its personnel, nor its suppliers, may physically lift or assist clients into transportation vehicles. If a traveller thinks he or she might need assistance during a trip, he or she should call Collette to determine what assistance might reasonably be given. Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining or other routine activities.

\*To request a wheelchair accessible room on a cruise, the traveller or person sharing the room must have a recognized disability that alters a major life function and requires the use of a mobility device and the use of the accessible features provided in the wheelchair accessible stateroom.

### **Holiday and Museum Closures**

Museum visits and personal shopping time may be disrupted due to unforeseen circumstances or many religious, state and local holidays observed throughout the world.

### **Motorcoach Washrooms**

Most motorcoaches used on our tours are equipped with washrooms except safari vehicles, exotic locations, and some of our Explorations tours. These are typically for emergency use, as we make plenty of comfort stops, allowing you the opportunity to use public restrooms and/or stretch your legs.

### **Seat Rotation**

Seats are rotated onboard the coach for all Collette tours under the direction of the tour manager. So that we do not show partiality among passengers, exceptions cannot be made.

### **Maps and Photos**

Maps shown on tour pages are current at the time of printing and may not reflect actual tour routing should the tour change. Photos shown on tour pages are reflective of the area(s) visited, but may not be included in the actual tour itinerary and the conditions you experience may be different than depicted in the photograph(s).

### **Baggage Disclaimer**

Although every effort is made to handle passengers' luggage as carefully as possible, Collette is not responsible for and does not assume liability or accept claims for loss of or damage to luggage due to breakage, theft or wear and tear through airline/airport, hotel and group carrier handling. It is recommended for your own self-interest and protection that you have adequate insurance to cover these eventualities. Check with your sales agent for low-cost insurance to cover these risks. Collette is not responsible for submitting your insurance claim.

There are limitations by coach and air carrier as to the number and size of bags which can be carried onboard and in bulk storage. Be sure to ask your travel professional about such restrictions before departing for your tour.

**Checked Baggage Charges:** Some airlines impose additional charges if you choose to check baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airline's checked baggage policies. Please be advised there is a \$25 USD/ CAD charge (per piece) for checked baggage on most transborder flights between U.S. & Canada. This is a fee levied by the airlines, not Collette, and may be subject to change.

### **Explanation of Responsibilities and Tour Conditions for Collette**

Each client is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are traveling to and from. If you decide to make a reservation, you acknowledge and agree that you are physically well enough to travel and understand that medical facilities may not be similar to what you are accustomed to at home. You must bring enough medication with you for the trip. Any person reserving or purchasing any Collette product published in this brochure accepts the condition that Collette reserves to itself the exclusive right to change or cancel itineraries, hotels, and other tour components whenever it is deemed necessary, including for tours designated as "guaranteed departures." If this occurs, every effort will be made to offer alternate dates and/or programs. Published times on itineraries are as accurate as possible but subject to change due to traffic, weather, mechanical and any other conditions beyond Collette's control that prevent Collette from operating as scheduled. Collette expressly disclaims any liability for any damages that may be incurred for any changes, cancellations or delays on any itinerary on any Collette tour.

All rates on foreign tours are subject to fluctuations of currency and may be changed when necessary without advance notice prior to deposit.

All rates published are per person as indicated and are based on double occupancy when only one rate is shown. Reservations will be accepted subject to availability at the time of request and will be considered confirmed only upon receipt of a minimum deposit. Child land rates are available and are valid for ages 5-12, sharing a room with two full-paying adults.

Collette does not accept liability in the case of any passenger being denied boarding by any airline carrier due to the carrier's overbooking of a flight. All cancellation charges, fees and refunds for any tour within this brochure are in effect as of the effective date as indicated on page 71 and supersede any other previously printed policies relating to these same charges.

### **GENERAL DISCLAIMER**

Collette monitors security situations around the world as well as government travel advisories. Conditions may require Collette to change or even cancel trips. You accept the risks involved in travel, both foreign and domestic, and accept responsibility for your own

travel decisions. Guests may be required to review and sign a participation agreement prior to engaging in certain activities on the trip.

Neither Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, shareholders, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns (collectively "Collette"), own or operate any person or entity which is to or does provide goods or services for these trips. You agree to be bound by the conditions of carriage for all transportation providers. Collette does not maintain control or operate the personnel, equipment, or operations of these suppliers it uses and as such Collette assumes no responsibility for and cannot be held liable for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of (1) any wrongful, negligent, willful or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of the suppliers or other employees or agents, (2) any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, or instrument owned, operated or otherwise used by any of these suppliers, or (3) any wrongful, willful or negligent act or omission on the part of any other party.

Client shall indemnify and hold harmless Collette Travel Service, Inc., its affiliated entities and its and their employees, agents, shareholders, officers, successors and assigns (collectively "Collette"), from all suits, actions, losses, damages, claims or liability for any personal injury, death, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience or irregularity which is occasioned by any negligent acts or omissions of Collette arising out of any goods or services provided for this or these trips.

Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses or expenses due to sickness, lack of appropriate medical facilities or practitioners, weather, strikes, theft or other criminal acts, war, terrorism, computer problems, or other such causes. Other risks may arise such as, but not limited to, hazards of traveling in foreign countries including undeveloped areas, the hazards of travel by aircraft, bus, van, train, automobile or other motorized vehicle, differing safety standards, sickness, criminal acts committed by others, allergic reactions, and/or animal encounters. You are voluntarily participating in the tour and Collette, and as lawful consideration for the agreement to travel with Collette, you agree not to make a claim against Collette, its related companies, officers and employees for injuries, death, or any other claim and agree to release Collette, its related companies, officers and employees from any such claim. This release is binding on all members of your traveling party, as well as your Estate and heirs and this provision shall be enforceable even after your trip has ended. If you make your own air reservations, Collette is not responsible and shall provide no refund if your flight schedule changes so that you are not able to enjoy the entirety of your tour. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Collette reserves the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if Collette deems it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour. Collette reserves the right to withdraw any tour announced. Collette reserves the right to decline to accept any person as a member of the tour, or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time, when such action is determined by the Tour Manager to be in the best interests of the health, safety, and general welfare of the tour group or of the individual participant. If you are traveling with children, you are solely responsible for their behavior and monitoring them throughout the tour. Neither does Collette accept liability for any carrier's cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline or other ticket to the tour departure city and return or otherwise. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owner at all times.

Collette is not responsible, and will not be bound by, representations made by third party representatives, travel agents, unaffiliated websites, or any other party.

Participants may be photographed for the promotional purposes of Collette. In addition, any comments that you submit as a review or your social media posts may be used for Collette's promotional purposes.

Payment of the deposit to Collette constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Collette reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions at any time, without notice.

### **Consumer Protection Plans**

Collette is a member of the following organizations: the National Tour Association, the United States Tour Operators Association, the Alliance of Canadian Travel Associations, the Travel Industry Council of Ontario, and the Association of British Travel Agents. Some of these associations operate a consumer protection plan to cover deposits placed with any tour operator member. Full details are available from these organizations or Collette. Collette is pleased to provide this additional protection to our clients.



Collette’s Travel Protection Plan
(for Canadian citizens or residents only\*)

Following is an outline of the Non-Insurance Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver, Insurance Benefits and non-insurance assistance services that make up the Travel Protection Plan.

Part A Waiver Only provided by Collette Tours Canada, Ltd: The Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver is provided by Collette and is not an insurance benefit underwritten by Northbridge General Insurance Corporation. Payment of a per person Travel Protection Plan fee to Collette at the time of booking guarantees a full refund of all payments (including deposits), except the Travel Protection Plan fee itself, for travel arrangements in case of cancellation of your travel plans for any reason prior to the day of departure. The Travel Protection Plan fee with air only covers airline tickets that you purchase from Collette.

Exception: If you originally purchased nonrefundable airline tickets, this Part A Travel Protection Plan does not provide a refund for any such nonrefundable airline tickets in the event of a cancellation. This air ticket may be covered by Collette’s Travel Protection Plan under Part B, if you cancel your trip for covered reasons (see Part B for more details).

The Part A Waiver portion of Collette’s Travel Protection Plan protects you from penalties in the event you have a need to cancel your entire inclusive tour package up to the day prior to departure. The Part A Waiver portion of the Travel Protection Plan does not indemnify you from penalties if you choose to cancel partial tour components or air. If you choose to partially cancel your tour, you will be responsible for a revision fee as well as any penalties that are incurred at the time of the cancellation.

Collette’s Part A Waiver portion of the Travel Protection Plan does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual’s travelling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. In this case, the single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (However, the Part B Benefits referenced below include a single supplement benefit of \$1,000 for certain covered reasons, as detailed in Part B.) Division of this charge between the two passengers involved is solely their responsibility. If insufficient funds are deducted from the cancelling client, the travelling client will be charged the remaining portion of the single supplement.

The Travel Protection Plan fee is nontransferable and valid for each applicant (paying client) only. Collette assumes no responsibility for and cannot and will not be held liable for any wrongful, negligent or unauthorized acts or omissions of any travel agent or travel agency other than that of Collette Tours Canada, Ltd. and its own employees, directors and officers.

Where to Present Part A Claims:

To request a refund under the Part A Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver portion of the Travel Protection Plan, please call Collette and send any unused airline tickets to:

Collette
ATTN: Customer Service Department, 40 Queen Street South, Mississauga, ON L5M 1K3
If cancellation occurs prior to departure, contact the Collette Reservations Department. When a client cancels prior to departure, any refunds are processed through the booking agent.

Table with 2 columns: PART A – Provided By Collette, Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee & Unused Services Waiver, up to Trip Cost

The Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver is provided by Collette and is not an insurance benefit underwritten by Northbridge General Insurance Corporation.

Part B Insurance Benefits provided by Northbridge General Insurance Corporation (\*NOT AVAILABLE TO RESIDENTS OF QUEBEC): On tour, travel protection benefits may provide coverage if you: must interrupt your trip or return home early for a covered reason; incur medical expenses for a covered sickness or injury; need a medical evacuation; suffer a baggage loss or delay; or are delayed on tour for 12 hours or more for a covered reason.

Table with 2 columns: SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS, MAXIMUM BENEFIT AMOUNT. Rows include PART B – Benefits Provided by the Insurance Company Listed Below, Accidental Death & Dismemberment, Trip Interruption, Missed Connection, Trip Cancellation, Travel Delay, Single Supplement, Medical Expense/Emergency Assistance, Baggage/Travel Documents, Baggage Delay.

\*This benefit is only applicable to Instant Purchase (Non-Refundable) Air Tickets and any single supplement penalties you are assessed if your Family Member or Travelling Companion has his/her Trip canceled and does not cover any other land, air or water arrangements.

\*\*The Medical Expense/Emergency Assistance benefits of this plan are subject to a maximum benefit limit of \$10,000 for those persons who at the time of a covered injury or sickness do not have valid hospital and medical insurance under a Government Health Insurance Plan of a Province or Territory of Canada.

PART B Exclusions & Limitations

Benefits are not payable for any loss due to, arising or resulting from: 1. suicide, attempted suicide or any intentionally self-inflicted injury while sane or insane; 2. an act of declared or undeclared war; 3.

participating in maneuvers or training exercises of an armed service; 4. riding, driving or participating in races, or speed or endurance contests; 5. mountaineering (engaging in the sport of scaling mountains generally requiring the use of picks, ropes, or other special equipment); 6. participating as a member of a team in an organized sporting competition; 7. participating in skydiving, hang gliding, bungee cord jumping, or scuba diving if the depth exceeds 130 feet or if You are not certified to dive and a dive master is not present during the dive; 8. piloting or learning to pilot or acting as a member of the crew of any aircraft; 9. being Intoxicated, as specifically defined in the policy, or under the influence of any controlled substance unless administered on the advice of a Legally Qualified Physician; 10. the commission of or attempt to commit a felony or being engaged in an illegal occupation; 11. normal childbirth, normal pregnancy (except complications of pregnancy) or voluntary induced abortion; 12. dental treatment (except as coverage is otherwise specifically provided herein); 13. amounts which exceed the Maximum Benefit Amount for each coverage as shown in the Schedule of Benefits; 14. due to a Pre-Existing Condition, as defined in the Policy. The Pre-Existing Condition Limitation does not apply to the Emergency Medical Evacuation or Return of Remains coverage; 15. a mental or nervous condition, unless hospitalized; 16. any rehabilitation or convalescent care; 17. treatment, services or expenses related to or resulting from travel in a specific country, region or city for which Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada has issued a formal Travel Warning, before Your departure date, advising Canadians to avoid all travel to that specific country, region or city; or 18. Sickness or Injury resulting from a motor vehicle accident where You are entitled to receive benefits pursuant to any policy or legislative plan of motor vehicle insurance.

Table with 1 column: NON-INSURANCE SERVICES. Rows include One Call 24-Hour Assistance Services, Global Xpi Medical Records Services

Please Note: Plan cost is based upon the cost of your trip. Benefits are described on a general basis only. The information in this brochure is only an outline of the coverage available, and is subject to the terms, conditions and exclusions of the policy. Please refer to the policy wording for complete details. Plan benefits, limits and provisions may vary by province jurisdiction. You will receive a Description of Coverage and a Description of 24-Hour Emergency Assistance Services which describe the benefits and limitations in detail. To review full plan details online, go to: www.tripmate.com/wpCN426C.

The Part B Insurance Benefits are underwritten by: Northbridge General Insurance Corporation, 105 Adelaide St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 1P9.

Payment for the plan(s) is required at time of purchase and is non-refundable once purchased. Prices and coverage are subject to change. For full plan details online, please visit: www.tripmate.com/wpCN426C (except for Cancel for Any Reason Waiver). This Part B travel insurance is underwritten by: Northbridge General Insurance Corporation: 105 Adelaide Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5H 1P9. Benefits are administered by: Northbridge Claims Administration, c/o Active Care Management, Tel: 1.888.421.5378.

For specific questions regarding Travel Insurance or to report a claim, call the Claims Administrator: Northbridge Claims Administration at: 888.421.5378. Representatives are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Collette’s Travel Protection Plan Pricing (per person)

The Cost of the Travel Protection Plan includes a Pre-Departure Cancellation Fee Waiver Provided By Collette Travel Service, Inc., insurance benefits underwritten by Northbridge General Insurance Corporation, as well as non-insurance assistance services provided by One Call Worldwide Travel Services Network, Inc. and Trip Mate.

Land Only Clients:

- \$95 adult/\$95 child for all North American escorted tours under 6 days
- \$255 adult/\$140 child for all North American escorted tours of 6 days or more
- \$335 adult/\$165 child for all international tours not otherwise listed below
- \$395 adult/\$190 child for all cruises, Canadian Rockies train tours, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, South Africa & Egypt tours
- \$450 adult/\$225 child for Galapagos tours
- \$500 adult/child for Oberammergau tours (must accompany 1st deposit)
- \$925 adult/\$425 child for Antarctica tours

When purchasing pre- and post-night accommodations, including optional extensions, the number of days will be added to the total number of tour days, and may subsequently alter your Travel Protection Plan cost. Please confirm with your reservation agent at time of booking.

Air-Inclusive Clients (Flex Airfare is purchased through Collette)

- \$140 adult/child for all North American tours under 6 days
- \$295 adult/child for all North American tours of 6 days or more
- \$355 adult/child for all international tours not otherwise listed below
- \$425 adult/child for all cruises, Canadian Rockies train tours, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, South Africa & Egypt tours
- \$500 adult/child for Galapagos tours
- \$550 adult/child for Oberammergau tours (must accompany 1st deposit)
- \$975 adult/child for Antarctica tours

Collette’s Travel Protection Plan can only be purchased by individuals who have purchased Collette Flex Airfare or Instant Purchase nonrefundable air through Collette. Instant Purchase air and its associated taxes, fees and surcharges require full payment at time of reservation and are 100% nonrefundable. This air ticket is covered by Collette’s Travel Protection Plan under Part B, if you cancel your trip for covered reasons. Tickets may only be changed for a fee up to \$300 plus any difference in airfare for travel in the following 12 months; specific fees and policies may vary by airline.

Seek out the expert advice of your travel professional.



80XW6 0119

source code

80XW6

For reservations, contact your  
Travel Professional or call **844.304.9109.**

CONNECT WITH  
**EXPLORATIONS**  
#TravelExplorations



**explorations.com**

